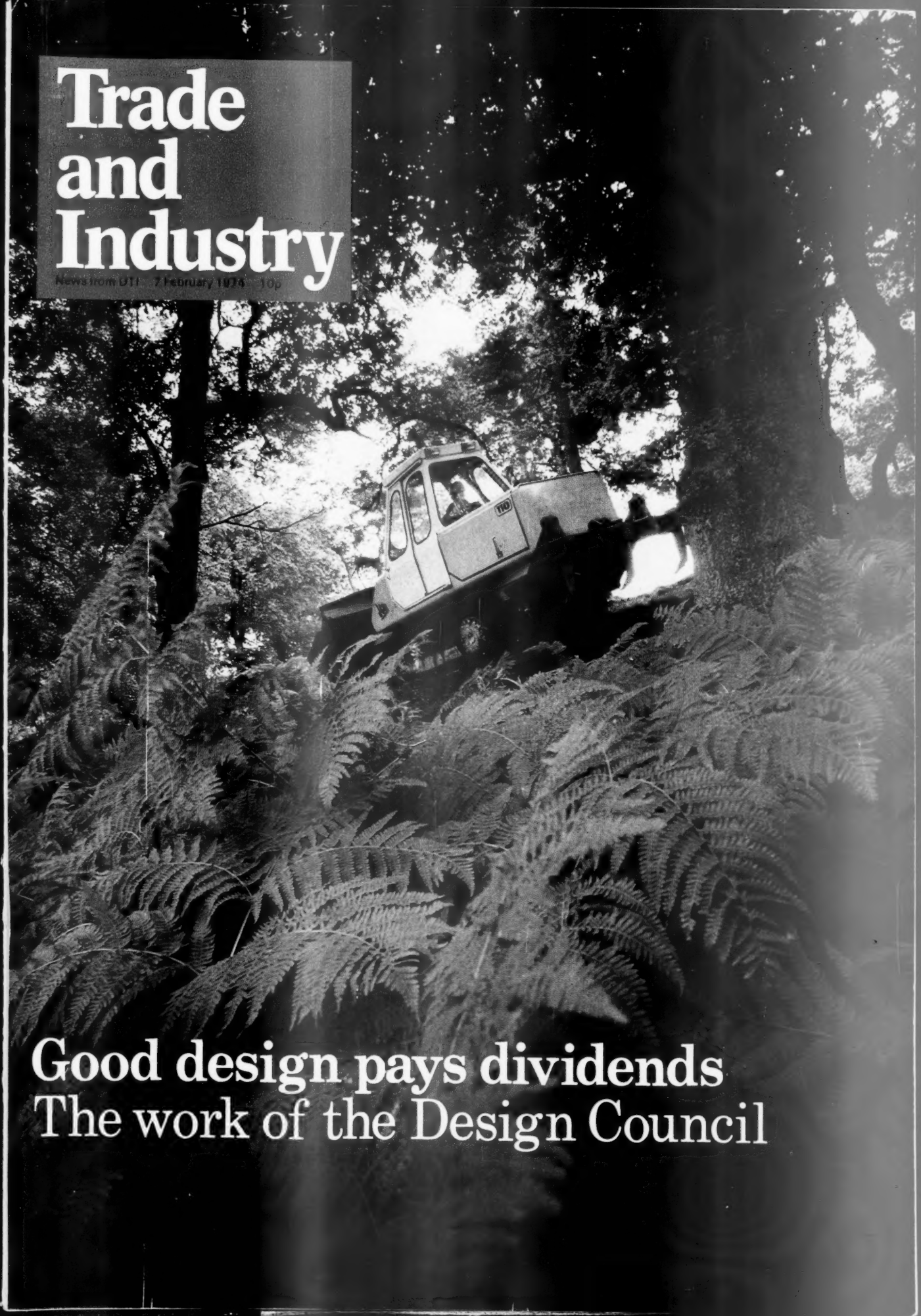
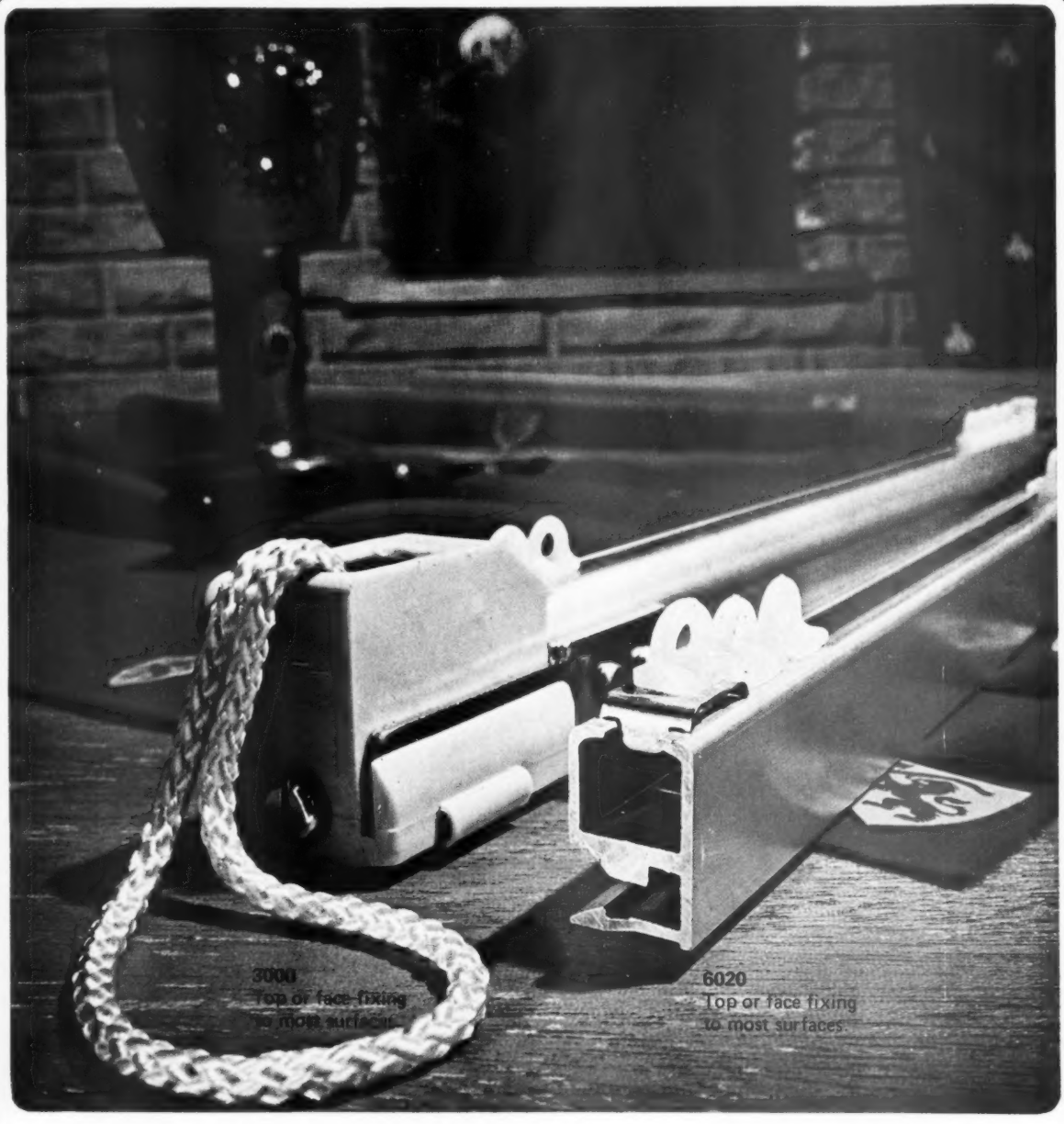
Trade and Industry

News from DTI 7 February 1974 10p



Good design pays dividends

The work of the Design Council



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Trade and Industry

7 February 1974

A JCB110 crawler shovelling and loading vehicle at work over difficult terrain. The JCB110 won for its manufacturers – J. C. Bamford Ltd. – one of the 10 design awards for engineering products given in 1973 by the Design Council. The activities of the Design Council in encouraging and displaying the benefits of good design are discussed in this issue. See page 206.

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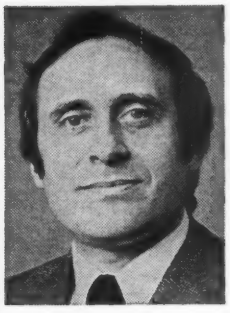
Because of the fuel crisis, and the continuing restriction on the number of pages, some news items, features and illustrations have been held over from this issue

Britain

Good design pays dividends

The work of the Design Council



Mervyn Unger, Deputy Director of the Design Council, has been with the Council since 1968, when he became head of the finance and administration division. He was appointed Deputy Director last year. Previously he was assistant managing director of Hector Powe Ltd., a subsidiary of Great Universal Stores.

Good design is an essential ingredient in the success of any manufactured product, whether it be a crane, a carpet, or a computer. The Government recognised this fact when, in 1944, it set up the Council of Industrial Design to 'promote by all practicable means the improvement of design in the products of British industry'. Since then, successive Governments have continued to support the growth of the Council's work and an ever-increasing number of companies, organisations and individuals have taken advantage of the Council's varied and expanding services.

In its early days the Council concentrated its efforts in the consumer goods industries and it was not until 1958 that it was able to begin to meet the demand for action in the engineering field. By 1972, careful allocation of the Council's limited resources had enabled sufficient engineering activities to be built up to justify Government approval for a change of name: the Council of Industrial Design became the all-embracing Design Council. Last May a very substantial improvement in the services which the Council can offer was made possible when the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry announced a £175,000 increase in the Design Council's annual grant. This money is being used primarily to finance a co-ordinated programme of advisory and promotional services for the engineering industries, and also to enable the Design Council, for the first time, to establish a permanent staff and small office in Wales.

The new services for engineering companies are wide-ranging. The spear-head is provided by a team of engineering field officers, whose job it is to visit manufacturers in order to help them to identify opportunities for design improvement and to draw attention to sources of expertise from which assistance can be obtained. A pilot scheme carried out during the spring of 1973 by a member of staff who visited 15 engineering companies provided six instances where follow-up visits to examine specific design problems were requested, ranging from the design of a sludge filter to a new material required to give a specific high frequency response for radar techniques. This pilot scheme and early results from the larger scheme now operating show that industry generally welcomes such assistance, especially the 'diagnostic' role which the field officers are able to fulfil.

The field officers can call on the support of the Design Council's new Record of Design Expertise to help companies find quickly the best source of specialist design skills which their particular problem may require. The record already includes information compiled from questionnaires and visits to universities, research associations, companies with specialised knowledge and other sources of design expertise including individual engineering design consultants.

Other methods of providing design advice to engineers and to industry are also being used. The first of a series of engineering design guides is due to be published this coming summer, and the Design Council has acquired the well-known monthly magazine *Engineering* to provide a regular means of communication with engineering companies throughout the United Kingdom. Engineering exhibitions are also being arranged, as are courses and conferences, general promotion in the press and on radio and television. The Design Council's Awards scheme is also being extended to cover such specialist areas of design as the motor vehicle industry.

Of course, all this new work in the engineering industries has not been allowed to weaken the Design Council's well-established services in other fields. The Design Centres in London and Glasgow become ever more attractive as the showplaces of the best of modern British consumer goods, with combined attendances now regularly topping 200,000 a month. Special exhibitions examining specific design themes in depth also continue at the London Design Centre: recent subjects have covered advances in the use of plastics in furniture; the recycling of waste products; and the place of model-making in the design process. Later this month a special exhibition of design from Japan will be on show, and this will be followed by an exhibition showing the development of products which had previously been highlighted in prototype form on the BBC's 'Tomorrow's World' television programme.

The Designer Selection Service continues to provide a ready guide for any organisation or individual seeking a suitably-skilled industrial designer for consumer or capital goods, or for graphics, packaging, exhibition or interior design work. A team of specialist industrial liaison officers keeps in regular touch with companies manufacturing all kinds of consumer durables, advising them on design

problems and helping them to make full use of all the Design Council's services. The Council's extensive programme of courses and conferences assists the training of management and staff in the distribution, manufacturing, and service industries to understand design and to use design skills effectively. The monthly magazine *Design* maintains its reputation as Britain's premier journal covering the whole field of design, while other Design Council publications range from the authoritative biennial 'Catalogue of Street Furniture from Design Index' to the widely-read Design Centre series of paperbacks giving guidance on various aspects of design in the home.

Two new activities deserve mention. First, the opening of an office in Cardiff at the beginning of March will provide the Design Council with the opportunity to mount small but regular exhibitions in Wales and will provide a base for two liaison officers to work permanently in the Principality in support of the regular visits to Welsh companies which have been made by Design Council staff for many years. Second, the Design Council has started to organise a series of special promotions at overseas trade fairs so that British companies with a high standard of modern design can combine to make a major impact on buyers. Supported by the Department of Trade and Industry, these hard-sell promotions back up the prestige exhibitions of which the Design Council has been organising overseas for many years. This spring such promotions are being mounted at the Cologne International Furniture Fair, the Heimtex International Trade Fair for Home Furnishing Textiles at Frankfurt and the Frankfurt International Spring Fair.

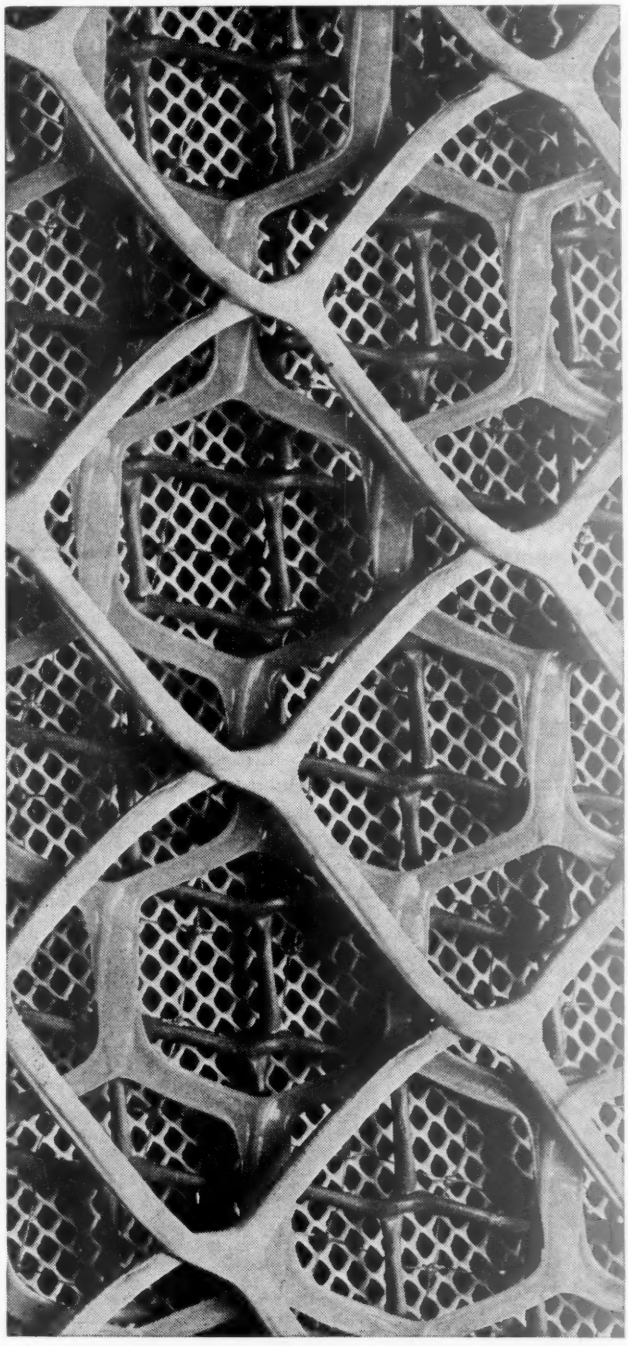
But what does the Design Council mean by 'good design'? And does design really matter in the hard commercial world? An answer to both questions is provided by a brief look at some of the products which won Design Council Awards last year.

Exploiting inventiveness

Britain has long had a reputation for inventiveness, but in recent years this reputation has been somewhat tarnished by failures to convert brilliant inventions into successful products. Such failures are often due to poor design; inventiveness is of little use unless it is exploited by careful attention to every aspect of the design of the final product, from selecting the right materials and manufacturing methods to ensuring that the product is cost-effective, easy-to-use, reliable and safe.

One company which avoided these pitfalls is Rank Radio International, whose Wharfedale 'Isodynamic' headphones use a new principle to produce high fidelity sound of a quality previously only possible with headphones at least twice as expensive. The headphones use an extremely flexible and lightweight diaphragm driven evenly all over its surface by magnetic means. But, having established that the isodynamic principle worked in practice, Rank went ahead with full-scale development and production only after they had made sure that economic manufacture was possible. For example, conventional magnets for this use would have been difficult to manufacture and prohibitively expensive; this problem was overcome when an anisotropic ceramic particle magnet bonded by a synthetic rubber became available which could be punched on a normal press and magnetised easily. Similarly, a unique very thin polyamide film, developed originally for printed circuits in space capsules, was used for the sound-producing diaphragm. Equal care was taken over other details, including comfort, appearance, and even packaging. The result? Within a year of its launch, Rank has broken into the highly-competitive hi-fi headphone market in a major way, selling more than 100,000 Isodynamic headphones, more than half of them abroad.

Another successful Design Council Award-winner is Netlon. This time a multi-million pound international business has been built up rapidly on the British invention



Garden netting was among 11 consumer products to receive Design Council Awards in 1973. Designed by Bryan Mercer and manufactured by Netlon Ltd., the netting is made in a variety of colours from integrally extruded plastics, making it light and strong, yet rotproof and easy to use and handle.

of a process for extruding plastics netting. By exploiting the versatility of the process and by careful choice of materials, Netlon has now become accepted throughout the world for everything from garden nets, to packaging, for stabilising loose rock faces, for marking the position of buried cables, and for use in kidney dialysis machines.

A third award-winner which relies on an invention is the 'Diasonograph' diagnostic scanner designed and manufactured by Nuclear Enterprises Ltd. This uses ultrasonics (high frequency sound) to detect differences in soft tissues in the human body which are invisible by other diagnostic methods. Careful detailed design has made the Diasonograph more sensitive, accurate, safe, efficient, reliable, and easy to use than any other ultrasonic diagnostic scanner in the world and has thus enabled ultrasonics to become the standard method for checking on the development of babies in the womb; it is also enabling ultrasonics to be used for the examination of liver, brains, eyes, hearts, and other soft tissue structures. The machine is successful because it exploits a comparatively new technology with a high standard of detailed mechanical and electronic design supported by technical development and innovation in key areas. Since its introduction just over a year ago, more than 101 Diasonographs have been sold, at least 28 of them abroad.

The award-winning JCB110 crawler shovel made by J. C. Bamford Ltd. also illustrates the advantage to be gained from concentrating development work on key areas of a design. Reliability and speed of operation are two of the major requirements in this kind of equipment; both are helped by the introduction of hydrostatic drive on the 110, as this greatly relieves the strain on the driver. Also, hydrostatic drive, by allowing greater flexibility in the transmission layout, enables the engine to be placed behind the driver, thus greatly improving the driver's view and providing an effective counterbalance for the load. Transmission output is automatically matched to the load, and lack of gear-change and the ability to spin on its axis by driving the tracks in opposite directions gives the 110 a very rapid work cycle. More than 150 of these machines were sold in 1973.

The value of convenience

Not all innovation relies on technology. One of the major advantages of Marconi International Marines' Seachart echosounder is the way it has been designed to fit easily and conveniently in almost any position on a ship's bridge. The back of the case is wedge-shaped and is drilled and plugged so that either the large or the small surface can be used for mounting, so providing a choice of two angles of inclination. The square front assembly can then be fitted any way round, thus providing a total of eight possible mounting positions. This combined with the Seachart's economy, reliability, and sensitivity has made the instrument extremely popular.

Cost-saving is an important design factor. Archibald Kenrick and Sons make furniture castors, and one of the tasks they set themselves in designing the OlympiCastor was to reduce the material used to the minimum essential for strength, as up to 70 per cent of the marginal cost of a castor goes on materials. The wheel, for example, is hollow and has four struts cast inside it for strength; but even the struts are hollowed out to reduce material. The OlympiCastor was especially designed for European markets and has proved so popular that sales in Britain have had to be severely restricted until Kenrick has expanded its production capacity.

Appearance

Appearance is, of course, the key factor in the design of upholstery fabrics. Sekers Fabrics won a 1973 Design Council Award with a range of fabrics which combine a strong pattern with a rough, heavily textured look which reflects the natural materials from which they are mostly woven. These fabrics have proved to be so attractive that they are now not only selling well in most of Sekers' existing markets but are also opening up new markets for the company, including the United States.

Finally, a product which exemplifies almost every aspect of good design is the Sinclair Executive calculator. Technological ingenuity has enabled Sinclair to produce the world's first truly pocketable calculator, a calculator which offers more features than some models many times bigger but which has been styled so aptly that it has become one of those rare objects which almost everyone recognises immediately as not just useful but as a positive joy to possess. Smaller than an average man's wallet, this slim matt black box will carry out complex or simple calculations. Its small size owes much to the use of hearing aid batteries in place of the usual larger cells. The use of such batteries was only made possible by devising circuitry which powers the central calculating integrating circuit in pulses so that it uses less than one-tenth of the current that would otherwise be required. Ease of use is assisted by a raised grid around each key to prevent clumsy fingers slipping. Development work on the original design has enabled the recommended retail price of the Executive to be reduced from £79 to £39. This design achievement has enabled Sinclair Radionics to build up since the middle of 1972 a market in calculators from nil to a total approaching £2 million a year, with exports playing an important role in this success. Good design certainly pays dividends!

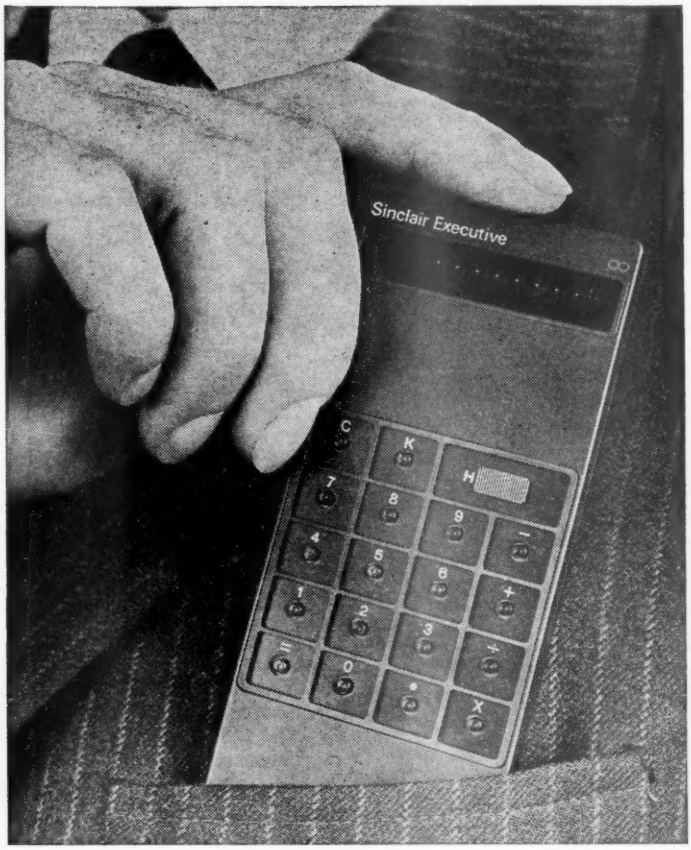
Further information about the Design Council's services can be obtained from: Design Council, 28 Haymarket, London SW1 4SU (tel: 01-839 8000).

1 This electronic Executive calculator won a consumer goods award for Sinclair Radionics Ltd. It is claimed to be the world's first truly pocketable calculator, and although weighing only 2½ oz, and measuring only 5½ in. by 2 in. by ¼ in., it nevertheless offers features which are not available on other much larger models.

2 Designed by Industrial Design Unit, of Wembley, these Wharfedale Isodynamic headphones won a consumer goods award for Rank Radio International Ltd. Using a new principle, the headphones afford a quality of fidelity sound only previously possible with sets costing at least twice as much.

3 OlympiCastors on a testing rig; developed for the European market, there are metal and nylon wheel versions. Apart from their attractive appearance, the wide tread gives easy directional control and the plastic tyres will not mark floor coverings. Manufacturers are Archibald Kenrick and Sons Ltd.

4 Ease of installation, use and maintenance are the key design features of the Seachart echosounder, which won for Marconi International Marine one of the 10 1973 Design Council awards for engineering products.



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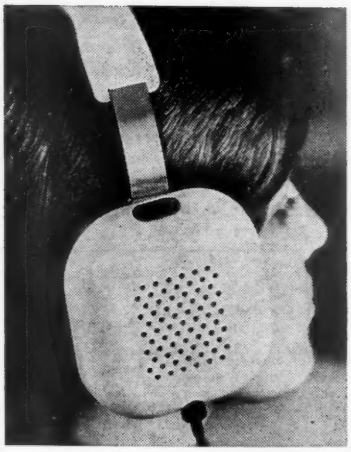

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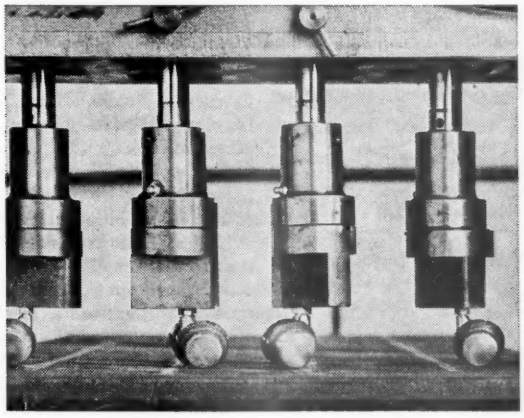

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Home News

CAA takes over

The Civil Aviation Authority has taken over from Her Majesty's Stationery Office the responsibility for the production, publication, sale and distribution of all official civil aviation publications, with the exception of Acts of Parliament and Statutory Instruments, and Department of Trade and Industry publications such as aircraft accident reports.

The full range of official civil aviation publications, including those previously published by the Air Registration Board, the Air Transport Licensing Board, and the Department of Trade and Industry, will in future be obtainable from the Civil Aviation Authority, Printing and Publication Services, Greville House, 37 Gratton Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2BN, from whom a comprehensive price list and order form is available.

In addition, a London cash sales point is to be provided from 4 February in the new Civil Aviation Authority Central Library on the ground floor of the Authority's headquarters at Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN, directly opposite Holborn (Kingsway) underground station. This will be open to personal callers only between 09.00 hours and 17.00 hours, Monday to Friday, for the sale of individual titles, but not for series or amended titles such as the Air Pilot, British Civil Airworthiness Requirements, or Notices to Airmen, which must be ordered from Cheltenham.

At Cheltenham, where the CAA has taken over the old Air Registration Board's Technical Publications Department, additional printing, binding, storing and mailiny facilities have been provided, and the stak strengthened, to provide a quick, normallg 'same day' service. To house the huge stocff of publications 17,000 square feet of warehouse space has been acquired.

The following titles are now available from CAA Printing and Publication Services, Cheltenham. Those marked with an asterisk (*) will also be obtainable from the sales desk in the CAA Central Library at Aviation House.

GROUP A – AIRWORTHINESS
Airworthiness Approvals Compendium
*Airworthiness Certification
Airworthiness Notices
Approved Aerial Positions
British Civil Airworthiness Requirements
BCAR Section P
CAA Approved Organisations
Civil Aircraft Inspection Procedures
Foreign Airworthiness Directives
General Purpose Maintenance Schedules
*Joint Airworthiness Requirements – Engines
*Joint Airworthiness Requirements – Propellers
Mandatory Aircraft Modifications and Inspections Summary
*Procedures for the acceptance of Equipment of Foreign Design
TSS Standards
Type Certificate Data Sheets

GROUP B – AIRCREW AND GROUND STAFF
*CAP 40 The Flight Navigators Licence
*CAP 50 Flight Engineers Licence
*CAP 53 Student Pilots and Private Pilots Licence
*CAP 54 Professional Pilots Licence
*Senior Commercial and Airline Transport Pilots Licence Examination Papers
*CAP 85 Aviation Law for Applicants for the Private Pilots Licence
*CAP 90 Flight Radio Operators Licences
*CAP 160 The Air Traffic Controllers Licence and Student Air Traffic Controllers Licence
*CAP 295 Flight-time Limitations
CAP 360 Air Operators Certificates
*Handling the Big Jets
*Report of the Committee on Flight Time Limitations
*Specimen Performance Charts
*Syllabus for Aeronautical Engineering Certificate
*Weather Radar for Pilots

GROUP C – AIR NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATION
Air Traffic Control Training Manual
CAP 21 Telecommunications Procedures
*CAP 46 Radio Telephony Procedure
*CAP 59 Consol – a radio aid to navigation
CAP 208 Airborne Radio Apparatus
*CAP 345 United Kingdom Provisional Obstacle Clearance
General Aviation Flight Guide
Manual of Air Traffic Services Part 1
UK Air Pilot
UK Air Pilot Chart Volume

GROUP D – AIRPORTS AND HELICOPTER STATIONS
*Aerodrome Fire and Rescue Services
*Airport Planning: an Approach on a National Basis
*CAP 132 Planning of Air Stations for Single-Engined Helicopters
*CAP 168 Licensing of Aerodromes
*Heliport Fire and Rescue Services

GROUP E – NOISE
*CAP 335 Noise Measurement for Aircraft Design Purposes

GROUP F – AVIATION SAFETY
*Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register 1972
*CAP 327 Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register 1968
*CAP 351 Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register 1969
*CAP 358 Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register 1970
*CAP 361 Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register 1971
World Airline Accident Summary

GROUP G – FLIGHT PLANNING
*CAP 159 Jet Aircraft Flight Planning Data
*Data Sheets No. 33
*Data Sheets No. 34
Manual of Aircraft Performance

GROUP H – LOG BOOKS
*CA 24 Personal Flying Log Book
*CA 27 Aircraft Log Book
*CA 28 Engine Log Book
*CA 319 Variable Pitch Propeller Log Book
*CA 801 Pilot Log Sheets
*Modification Record Book

GROUP J – REPORTS AND STATISTICS
*CAA Annual Report
CAA Monthly Statistics
*Forecasts of Air Traffic and Capacity at Airports in the London Area

GROUP K – MISCELLANEOUS
British Hovercraft Safety Requirements
*CAP 74 Fuelling of Landplanes and Helicopters
International Register of Civil Aircraft
CAA Official Record (including Air Transport Licensing Notices)

Sunday ban on Private flying to stay

Michael Heseltine, Minister for Aerospace and Shipping, has decided that because there is continuing uncertainty over the country's energy supplies, he would not be justified in withdrawing his request for the banning of flying on Sundays by the general aviation sector.

Mr. Heseltine says the decision has been taken 'with very great regret', and that he is 'very alive to the problems which have been caused, and to the hardships which the restrictions on Sunday flying have caused'.

The Minister added that if the situation developed in a material way over the next two weeks, the position could be further reviewed.

Clearance of merger proposals

On the information at present before him, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, has decided not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

1 Combined English Stores Group Ltd. David Greig Ltd.
2 Clarke Chapman-John Thompson Ltd. Main UK interests of International Combustion (Holdings) Ltd.

Five more aerodromes to provide consultation facilities

Cranley Onslow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping, has signed an Order designating Biggin Hill, Carlisle, Hamble, Perth and Redhill aerodromes under the provisions of Section 8 of the Civil Aviation Act 1968.

Under these provisions, managements of the aerodromes will have a legal obligation to provide adequate facilities for consultation with aerodrome users, local authorities and other interested local organisations on any matter affecting their interests relating to management or administration of the aerodrome.

The Order, entitled the Aerodromes (Designation) (Facilities for Consultation) Order 1974, came into effect on 24 January.

Most larger aerodromes and those at which there are a substantial number of scheduled and charter flights have been designated since the 1968 Act was passed. It has now been decided to bring the remaining major flying training schools within the scope of Section 8.

Deep sea mining for manganese nodules

Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development, announced on 29 January financial assistance to Rio Tinto Zinc and Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd. to encourage UK participation in deep sea mining for manganese nodules.

In a written answer to a parliamentary question he said: 'I have offered two UK mining companies (Rio Tinto Zinc and Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd.) up to £830,000 towards their participation in an international consortium to examine manganese nodule deposits on the floor of the Pacific Ocean. The assistance will be repaid if the project leads to commercial production and in addition the companies have agreed that UK consumer will have the first option to purchase a proportion of any metals produced by the Consortium. This project, therefore, not only provides an opportunity for UK companies to break into a new technology but in the longer term could give UK consumers access to a new source of metals (copper, nickel and cobalt).'

The Consortium consists of the Kennecott Copper Corporation (USA), RTZ and Consolidated Gold Fields (UK), Mitsubishi Corporation (Japan) and Noranda Mines Ltd. (Canada).

The Consortium will undertake a programme which will include work on improving the understanding of the nature and location of manganese nodule deposits on the bed of the Pacific Ocean and the investigation of methods for working, transporting and extracting useful metals from them. The programme is expected to last five years and cost upwards of $50 million.

Government assistance is limited to £830,000 towards the initial phase of the programme (1974-76). Further contributions may be made if progress justifies it. All Government assistance will be repayable if the programme leads to commercial production.

Kennecott Copper Corporation have already devoted considerable resources to this field of work. Other members of the Consortium will also contribute personnel, equipment and expertise as appropriate. UK companies will have the opportunity to tender for any contracts let by the consortium.

Manganese nodules occur naturally on the beds of all oceans generally at depths below 1,000 metres; the richest metal-bearing nodules have been found in the Pacific Ocean at depths of about 5,000 metres. The metal content of nodules varies greatly with depth and geographical location but the usual range for deep sea nodules is Manganese (12–34 per cent), Nickel (0.1–1.6 per cent), Copper (0.1–1.5 per cent), Cobalt (0.1–0.3 per cent) and Iron (1.6–18.0 per cent).

Some Patent fees increased . . .

The Patents (Amendment) Rules 1974, which were published on 28 January 1974, increase some of the fees due on or after 19 May 1974.

The fees to be increased include those payable for filing a complete specification, for sealing a patent and for renewal. The application fee is not increased.

The fee payable for sealing a patent in respect of which the complete specification was accepted on or after 19 February 1974, but before 19 May 1974, and the renewal fee in respect of any year beginning on or after 19 May 1974, are increased on 19 February 1974.

Copies of the new Rules (SI 1974 No. 87) may be obtained from the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD, from the Sale Counter, Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY and from HM Stationery Office at the usual addresses, price 9p (by post 12p).

. . . and some for registered designs

The Designs (Amendment) Rules 1974, which were published on 28 January 1974, increase some of the fees due on or after 19 May 1974. Those increased include the fees payable for the application for registration of a design and for the extension of the copyright in a registered design.

The fee for the extension for the second period of the copyright in a design paid in advance in respect of any period beginning on or after 19 May 1974 is increased on 19 February 1974.

Copies of the new Rules (SI 1974 No. 86) may be obtained from the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD, from the Sale Counter, Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY and from HM Stationery Office price 9p (by post 12p).

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
8 January 1974		
919,061	Agfa Aktiengesellschaft	A photographic material having a reduced tendency to fog
1,138,531	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Mining ploughs and cutter tool mounting adapters for use in such ploughs
1,205,839	Societe Chimique des Charbonnages	A method of manufacture of 1C1S, 2C1S, 3C1S, 4C1S, cyclopenlane-letracarboxylic acid and its dianhydride
1,215,343	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Processes for the preparation of ceramics of materials, in particular of fissionable materials
1,170,007	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Apparatus for displaying and printing information
1,248,221	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Collision warning apparatus
1,262,841	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	A character generation system
1,257,798	James Tennant Thomson	Steam or hydraulic reciprocating engine
1,282,853	International Standard Electric Corporation	Oscillator arrangement
9 January 1974		
1,023,293	Creed and Co. Ltd.	Stepping mechanism for transporting the carriage arrangements of electrical office machines and teletypewriters which are capable of being moved along the writing plane
1,205,725	Mefina SA	Sewing machine
1,205,726	Mefina SA	Sewing machine
1,205,727	Mefina SA	Sewing machine
1,206,084	Mefina SA	Sewing machine
1,233,031	Mefina SA	An adjusting device for the tension of the thread supplied to the needle of a sewing machine

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Proceedings under Section 36 of the Patents Act 1949

Notice is hereby given that the endorsement 'Licences of Right' upon the undermentioned Patent was cancelled on 7 January 1974.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
1,201,118	Decca Ltd.	The digital indication of angle, particularly phase angle.

The Patents Office
London

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Variations to the Three Day Order

Three variations to the new Three Day Order which restricts the use of electricity in industry and commerce came into operation on 1 February.

They are contained in a Variation Order which was laid before Parliament on 31 January. The variations:

1 bring the restriction in the use of electricity by firms which have normally worked seven days a week more into line with those firms which have normally worked only five days.
2 permit firms with their own transport to carry out essential maintenance and repair of their vehicles on their own premises outside the three permitted days.
3 confine the exemption from the three day restrictions to newspapers in the generally accepted sense of the term and not, for example, to magazines and periodicals.

The variations stem from experience of the working of the Three Day Order in the light of representations by industry and commerce.

Seven day working

The effect of the Variation Order on firms which over the last 12 months have normally worked a seven day week is that they will now be able to work the same number of hours as they used to do on Sunday, excluding the mid-day peak between noon and 2.30 p.m. This is in addition to their allocated three days.

The Government has made the Variation Order because companies normally working a seven day week have complained they have been disproportionately affected by the restriction to three day working – the three day week representing a cut of 4/7ths in their working week compared with a cut of 2/5ths on those working a five day week.

The easement under the Variation Order will impose a cut of 3/7ths. This is much more in line with a cut of 2/5ths. Sunday is defined as starting at 6.00 a.m. on Sunday and continuing for 24 hours after that.

Transport maintenance

Under the Three Day Order some firms with their own transport have been unable to maintain and repair their vehicles on the three days they are permitted to use electricity because the vehicles have then been in use.

The Variation Order will permit them to be refuelled, maintained or repaired

1 if the vehicles are operated under an operator licence granted under Part V of the Transport Act 1968; and
2 if this work is done on premises which are used and occupied for maintenance purposes by the holder of the licence.

Newspapers

The Government's intention in the original Three Day Order was to restrict the exemption from the three day restrictions to newspapers in the generally accepted sense.

The Variation Order also exempts from the three day restrictions newspapers published at intervals of less than a week as well as daily and weekly newspapers, and defines a newspaper as a publication for the 'dissemination of a broad range of items of interest to the general public circulating among the general public nationally or in a particular area, but not including magazines, trade or professional journals or other periodical publications'.

Notes

The Variation Order is The Electricity (Industrial and Commercial Use) (Control) (Third Amendment) Order 1974 SI 137. It is on sale at HMSO.

It varies the revised Three Day Order, The Electricity (Industrial and Commercial Use) (Control) (Second Amendment) Order 1974 SI 117, which came into force at midnight on 28 January 1974. SI 117 made only one major change to the original Three Day Order, The Electricity (Industrial and Commercial Use) (Control) (No. 2) Order 1973 SI 2172: it permitted industry and commerce whose use of electricity has been restricted to the latter part of the week to have the option of working Wednesday to Friday or Thursday to Saturday.

Fuel savings averaging 25 per cent have been recorded in Government office buildings as the result of fitting Honeywell Optimum Start controls on existing heating systems. Photo shows Bruce Jackson, sales manager of Honeywell's Commercial Division, with an installation of the control unit in the boiler room of the Southern Region headquarters of the Property Services Agency at Coley Park, Reading. Mr. Jackson invented the controller, which is already in use in more than 300 buildings managed by the Property Services Agency of the Department of the Environment. Property Services Agency fuel economy experts reckon that the fuel equivalent of 17,000 tons of coal – at £15 per ton – will be saved annually.

Three Day Order – options for later week working

The Department of Energy announced on 29 January that from 30 January industry and commerce whose use of electricity has been restricted to the later part of the week have the option of working Wednesday to Friday or Thursday to Saturday.

This is the only major change for the bulk of industry and commerce in the new Three Day Order which came into effect at midnight on 28 January 1974.

In affording this option, the new Order makes only one requirement on those companies which choose to continue to work Thursday to Saturday rather than Wednesday to Friday. It requires them to display a notice stating that

1 this choice has been made
2 that no electricity will be used on the premises on the Wednesday of the particular week (except for purposes allowed under the exemptions of the original Order).

Companies may decide each week whether to work Wednesday to Friday or Thursday to Saturday.

The new Order requires the notice to be displayed

1 from 10 a.m. on the Tuesday until 10 a.m. on the following Sunday each week that this option is exercised
2 at the principal entrance used by visitors and also at the principal employee's entrance, if it is different.

The following Orders remain in force:

1 The Fuel and Electricity (Heating) (Control) Order 1973/SI 2068
2 The Electricity (Heating) (Control) Order 1973/SI 2092
3 The Electricity (Lighting) (Control) 1973/SI 2080
4 The Electricity (Advertising, Display, etc.) (Restriction) Order 1973/SI 2091
5 The Electricity (Industrial and Commercial Use) (Control) (No. 2) Order 1973/SI 2172.

The Department of Energy's weekly statement of fuel stocks is published on page 243 in the statistics section.

Personal exports without VAT

A revised Notice No 704 (VAT Retail export schemes) has been issued by Customs and Excise to all VAT registered traders known to hold copies of the original Notice.

The Notice describes the personal export and over-the-counter schemes under which goods can be sold without VAT by a registered taxable person to an overseas visitor or other entitled person for export. It also includes diagrammatic guides which highlight the principal requirements of both schemes.

The revised Notice incorporates amendments contained in VAT Notices: Amendment Leaflet No 1 issued in March 1973 and described in detail the different documentation and certification procedures required for visitors from EEC and those for travellers from other countries.

Price Commission reports £580 million saving

The third report of the Price Commission was published on 29 January (HMSO price 45p). It covers the three-month period 1 September to 30 November 1973 but also reviews the operation of price control during the whole period of Stage 2, viz from 29 April to 31 October, as well as during November – the first month of Stage 3.

It notes the 'considerable achievement' of the Commission during Stage 2 in keeping the rate of increase of prices in the field under its direct control below that shown by either the wholesale or the retail price index. The rate of price increase in the pre-notification field (in Stage 2, Category I companies plus some 40 'market leaders') over the whole six months of Stage 2 was the equivalent of 8¾ per cent per annum, whereas the wholesale price index rose at an annual rate of 15 per cent and the retail price index at an annual rate of 10 per cent. The scrutiny by the Commission of applications from pre-notifying companies, and the rejection or modification or withdrawal of over one half of them, cut the average price increase applied for during Stage 2 from 7.2 per cent to an average of 5.3 per cent, saving trade customers some £580 million at an annual rate and the final consumer considerably more.

This was achieved against a background of steeply rising costs for industry. The Report illustrates a 23.6 per cent increase in the rise in the price of materials and fuel used in manufacturing during Stage 2, an increase of over 47 per cent on a yearly basis.

The Report also compares the rate of inflation in the UK with that of other EEC member countries. The relative position of the UK has steadily improved since the counter-inflation policy was introduced (in November 1972). Out of nine member countries, the UK has moved from eighth place (over the 12 months to October 1972) to sixth place (over the year to October 1973) and to fifth place (over the six months to October 1973).

Work of the Commission in Stage 2

The work of the Commission in monitoring prices and profit margins during Stage 2 is examined for both Category I and II manufacturing and service enterprises and distributors.

A total of 1,130 pre-notifications of price increases were submitted to the Commission during the whole of Stage 2 by Category I companies. Over one half were rejected, modified or withdrawn; in other words, less than one half were accepted as presented. In cash terms this intervention by the Commission represented a saving of about £580 million on an annual basis – or more than a quarter of the amount applied for. This is a saving of trade prices; at consumer prices, the saving is substantially greater.

Some pre-notifying companies submitted a large number of notifications in Stage 2, but over a fifth (40 out of the 185) submitted none at all.

The detailed examination which the Commission made of the first quarterly profit returns from Category I companies satisfied them 'that most Category I firms were operating within their annual profit margin reference levels'. Of the 58 firms which were operating at a level of profit in excess, the majority could produce evidence of seasonal or other distorting factors, or other satisfactory explanations. In three cases the firms either reduced their prices or deferred an application for an otherwise justified price increase, to eliminate the excess.

Second quarterly returns were due from Category I firms by 11 November. The Commission is paying particular attention (in these and future returns) to firms which, in their first report, were operating at or near their reference levels.

The Report makes the point that the control of profits under the Price Code is by reference to a percentage margin and that therefore the absolute level of profit can increase in line with increasing turnover. This and other factors (eg sub-division of enterprises and the exclusion of overseas profits from the price control) explains why companies could show substantially increased profits and yet conform with the Code.

The control over Category II firms during Stage 2 was exercised primarily on the basis of their quarterly returns. Of the 600 concerns in the manufacturing and service sectors in Category II, most were operating within their reference levels. Of the 88 firms above their levels, the great majority could produce satisfactory explanations and the Commission accepted that, with two exceptions, no further action was necessary at the time. One firm made a voluntary reduction in its charges and another did so after notice from the Commission that the statutory powers of the Counter-Inflation Act would otherwise be invoked.

There are about 250 distributors in Category II entailing, with subsidiaries, some 600 reporting units. By the end of Stage 2, 535 first reports had been received of which 186, or just under a third, showed an excess over either their gross or their net reference levels or sometimes both. In 75 of these cases, a satisfactory explanation was not forthcoming and the Commission pursued the matter further with the firms concerned. These inquiries were still proceeding when the report was written; but by the end of November some 20 agreements had been reached with firms in various distributive trades to bring profits into line, either by price reductions or by the containment of existing prices despite rising costs. (These agreements were calculated to save the customers of the firms concerned some £4.3 million.)

In general, the Report notes that most distributors were keeping within their reference levels. At the end of Stage 2, gross and net profit margins were on average about one percentage point below reference levels. Only one sector of distribution, 'dealers' (a term which includes timber merchants, builders' merchants, and scrap metal dealers), was operating on average above its reference levels, and the Commission secured a number of price reductions in this sector.

Stage 3

The Stage 3 Code brought changes both of administration and of substance for the Price Commission. The major administrative change was the extension of the pre-notification requirement to Category II manufacturing and service companies and the Report details their considerable misunderstanding

Defence against rising prices

In an address on 31 January to a business conference on Pay, Prices and the Economy in 1974, the chairman of the Price Commission, Sir Arthur Cockfield, said 'Quite frankly – and I make no bones about this – we see our job primarily as one of stopping prices going up or, where we can't, of cutting down the rate of price increase. The changes made in Stage 3 have powerfully reinforced this concept of the Commission's functions. We no longer "approve" price increases: what we do is to intervene where we can to stop price increases or to modify them.'

He went on: 'There are quite enough people both in industry and elsewhere whose efforts are directed to pushing prices up. Unless we in the Commission were determined to do everything we could within the limited powers available to us to resist price increases, the public would have no one to defend them against rising prices. The interests of the ordinary people are too easily forgotten and too easily brushed aside by sectional interests. We must not let this happen. A prices policy entails sacrifices by industry in just the same way as rising prices impose sacrifices on consumers. We must try and get the balance right; but we must never forget that in the end, it is the will of the people that will prevail.'

STAGE 2: **Pre-notifications of price increases by Category I companies**

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Total
Notifications received	106	209	126	205	140	129	215	1,130
of which:								
approved in full	36	61	42	100	85	76	124	524
approved in part	44	66	28	37	25	15	66	281
rejected	1	12	7	22	11	11	6	70
withdrawn	25	70	49	46	29	27	19	255

of the Code and of their statutory obligations and the consequent high figure of rejected pre-notifications from these companies (half rejected in the first two months of Stage 3).

During November, the first month of Stage 3, the Commission received 385 notifications or pre-notifications of price increases, of which 277 were from Category II firms. Forty-seven were rejected, two modified and two withdrawn. But the period was too short in terms of the 28 and 14 day 'time expired' periods for any meaningful analysis to be made of resulting price increases.

Publicity

One of the consequences of Stage 3 has been a shift in the Commission's function from one of approving price increases after detailed scrutiny to one of intervening 'to stop unjustified price increases and to cut down excessive ones.' This explains why there are no longer any approved price increases for the Commission to announce; but the Commission does publicise its interventions, monthly, whether by way of rejection or modification of a proposed price increase, or of the rolling-back of an unjustified one.

Pay Board's third quarterly report

The Pay Board's third quarterly report covers the period 1 September to 30 November, 1973, which included the end of Stage 2 and the introduction of Stage 3 of the Government's counter-inflation policy.

The report, laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State for Employment, describes how the Pay Board has discharged its functions of implementing the Pay Code under Part II of the Counter-Inflation Act 1973.

Review of Stage 2

The report shows that between 2 April and 30 November the Pay Board received details of 7,804 Stage 2 settlements covering 18 million employees and approved or screened 6,993 settlements covering 16.4 million employees.

During Stage 2 the Board found a high degree of compliance with the Code among reported settlements.

The Board's policy is to investigate all complaints of infringements of the Code and to mount special investigations in localities, industries and sectors of employment where it has reason to suspect infringements. Between 14 May and 30 November, the Board's regional units carried out 1,271 spot checks and found 364 cases of infringement.

The main conclusions drawn by the Board from the spot checks programme are:

1 well over half of the complaints and reports of alleged infringements turn out on investigation to be unfounded;
2 of the total number of employees in the firms examined, just over 8 per cent have been granted increases contrary to the Code;
3 most infringements are for comparatively small amounts;
4 most infringements relate to intervals between increases and to increases above the pay limit, frequently through ignorance or misunderstanding of the requirements of the Code;
5 the majority of employers voluntarily agree to rectify an infringement;
6 the evidence does not support the view that there is widespread evasion of the Code through employers taking on new recruits at high rates of pay than they replace or at more than the rate currently paid by the employer for the same job.

Introduction of Stage 3

The Board comments that the Stage 3 Code is more flexible than the Stage 2 Code, in the sense that it gives negotiators more options. It is not, however, more flexible so far as the Board's discretion to approve settlements is concerned. The Board's task, as in Stage 2, is to ascertain the facts and to interpret statutory rules.

Between 7 November and 30 November the Board received details of 257 Stage 3 settlements covering 2.1 million employees and approved or screened 56 settlements covering 250,000 employees.

The Board also received 199 applications from groups applying to be considered as anomalies caused by the standstill. It dealt with 38 of these, of which eight covering over 350,000 employees were approved.

The Board also received 14 proposals concerning new efficiency payment schemes. No proposals were received solely concerning rates for new work or threshold arrangements.

Other activities

The Board reports that it has received two further references from the Government: on London Weighting (on which it has been asked to report by the end of June 1974) and on the criteria and methods which should be used to determine the pay of Civil Service scientists.

The report also refers to the progress of legal actions in which the Board was involved; the work of the Construction Panel; the Pay Board's information and advisory services; staff and organisation; and the use of external consultancy services.

Price Commission to unscramble eggs

The Price Commission is conducting its first 'in-depth' investigation under the Fresh Food Reference. This deals with eggs, and the results will be reported to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It comprises a full study of current distribution arrangements and of prices and margins including recent trends. MLH Ltd. has been appointed to assist in this work. The investigation is expected to take four months to complete.

The Commission is also extending the regular monitoring of fresh food prices which they are carrying out under the Fresh Food Reference. This monitoring, which is being undertaken by the Commission's Regional staff, covers bacon, eggs, meat and poultry at the moment. It is now being extended to include the main varieties of fruit and vegetables (eg apples, oranges, bananas, potatoes, tomatoes, lettuces, onions, carrots and cauliflowers) and of fish (eg cod, haddock, plaice, herrings and kippers).

The Fresh Food Reference was made to the Price Commission on 20 September last year by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Commission was asked to keep under continuous review the course of fresh food prices at first hand and subsequent stages of distribution.

The Price Commission explained in November (*Trade and Industry*, 29 November 1973) that its surveillance over the course of fresh food prices would be exercised through the regular monitoring of retail prices and through special longer-term in-depth investigations.

Health and Safety at Work – Bill published

Proposals for a unified system of law covering the safety and health of people at work as well as the public at large who may be affected by work activities are contained in a Bill (Health and Safety at Work Etc – House of Commons Bill No. 74 HMSO, price 75p) published on 28 January. The Bill has been presented to Parliament by William Whitelaw, Secretary of State for Employment.

The Bill has its origins in the Robens Committee Report on Safety and Health at Work published in July 1972. Since then a programme of extensive consultation has taken place with interested people and organisations, both on the findings of the Report and on the subsequent consultative proposals put out by the Department of Employment in June last year. It provides for:

1 one comprehensive and integrated system of law dealing with the health and safety of virtually all people at work
2 the protection of members of the public where they may be affected by work activities
3 the setting up of a Health and Safety Commission and Executive to be responsible to Ministers for administering the legislation

In addition the Bill places general duties on everybody concerned with health and safety at work – employers, self-employed, employees, manufacturers and suppliers of plant and materials used at work and so on.

Official appointments

Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has authorised the following appointments:

Mr. J. S. Heaton to be re-appointed as a member of the English Industrial Estates Corporation with effect from 1 April 1974.

Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Energy, has authorised the following appointments:

Mr. D. Webster to be chairman of the Yorkshire Electricity Consultative Council.

Councillor Miss Maureen A. Vince to be a part-time member of the North Western Electricity Board.

Mr. D. Webster to be chairman of the Yorkshire Electricity Consultative Council.

Adviser to DTI

Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has invited Sir Hilary Scott of Messrs. Slaughter and May, to accept appointment as Adviser to the Companies Policy Division of the Department of Trade and Industry. Sir Hilary has agreed, and the arrangement will come into effect forthwith.

This is a new, part-time appointment in which Sir Hilary will be advising the Department particularly on the implications for British company law of developments in the EEC, but will be available to give advice on domestic developments.

Sir Hilary is 67 and is a solicitor by profession. He was President of the Law Society in 1966, and a member of the Jenkins Committee on Company Law between 1959 and 1962. Sir Hilary was chairman of the departmental committee on Property Bonds and Equity Linked Life Assurance, which reported in April 1973.

NPL scientist goes to ICI under exchange scheme

The Department of Trade and Industry and Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. announce that Dr. Anthony Kelly, of the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, is to be seconded to ICI under the Civil Service scheme for the exchange of scientists between Government and industry. The secondment will begin on a part-time basis on 1 February for a period of up to 12 months.

Hiring controls – exemption of certain TV sets, motor-cycles and mopeds

The Department of Trade and Industry has issued General Licences under the Hire-Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) Order 1973 and the Control of Hiring Order 1973.

Monochrome television receivers manufactured not less than two years before they are let out on hire under a written hiring agreement are exempted from hiring control provided they have been let out on hire previously for a consecutive period of not less than 42 weeks. This concession is to help traders who are having difficulty in disposing of monochrome sets returned by customers who have changed to colour sets.

Motor cycles and mopeds with sidecar attached which were inadvertently caught by the hiring and hire-purchase control are now specifically exempted from those controls.

The Licences, The Control of Hiring (Television Sets) Licence 1974, The Hire-Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) (Motor Cycles with Sidecar) Licence 1974, and the Control of Hiring (Motor Cycles with Sidecar) Licence 1974 came into operation on 30 January 1974. Copies can be obtained from HM Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London, WC1 and branches, or by post from HM Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London, SE1 (price 2p net each, 5p by post).

Capital Gains Tax retirement relief: business passing to husband or wife

The Board of Inland Revenue announce that where a business passes on death to the owner's husband or wife, consecutive periods of ownership of each spouse may be aggregated for the purpose of the 10 year test in Section 34(1) (a), Finance Act 1965, when the test is applied to the disposal of the whole or part of the business by the surviving spouse. Similarly the periods of ownership of each spouse may be aggregated for this purpose where the business has been carried on by a husband or wife in partnership and one succeeds to the whole of the business on the death of the other.

Entries for British offshore directory

The Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy is co-operating with IPC Industrial Press Ltd. in the production of the *Petroleum Times* guide to '1974 British Offshore Suppliers'. The guide will contain three sections: trade associations, professional bodies, etc.; buyers' guide to equipment, products and services; and company information. Entries in any of these sections is free of charge.

Applications for entry should be made by early February, to enable IPC to have the guide available for the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston in May. The guide will enable buyers to make effective use of home industries. The guide itself should prove a useful source of information to the main British offshore suppliers for the smaller company looking for sub-contracting opportunities.

Application forms for free entries and display advertising and order forms for the guide are available from: The Compilation Manager, 'Petroleum Times 1974 British Offshore Suppliers', IPC Industrial Press Ltd., 33–40 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0NE.

Patent Office publications for industry

The Patent Office offers industry a wide range of publications. These include the Official Journal (Patents), the Trade Marks Journal, British Patent Specifications, Illustrated Abridgements of Patent Specifications, Reports of Patent, Design and Trade Mark Cases, and 50-year subject matter file lists of British Patent Specifications. Details of these and other publications may be obtained by post from Sale Branch, the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3RD or by personal application at the Public Sale Counter of the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2.

N.E.L.D.C.++++
TOMORROWS INDUSTRY CHOOSES THE NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT AREA FOR ITS EXPANSION++ A WIDE RANGE OF FIRMS WITH HIGHLY TECHNICAL PROCESSES HAVE ALREADY SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES IN THE AREA++++
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More Jobs in Wales

Jobs for 370 more workers will be provided by two factory extensions now being constructed in Wales. The Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation has announced a 36,518 sq. ft. extension to begin shortly at the Aladdin Industries Ltd. factory at Swansea which will provide jobs for 170 employees when it is completed by August. Aladdin already have a substantial labour force in their factory at Pontadarwe.

A 55,305 sq. ft. extension is also scheduled to the Courtaulds Ltd. (Ballito Hosiery) factory at Dowlais. The original advance factory was completed in 1967 and the first extension completed in 1969. This second extension is expected to be completed by September and Courtaulds anticipate that it will increase their labour force by some 200.

Specialist engineers expand at Thornaby

Indtec Engineering Ltd. are leasing one acre of land on the Teesside Estate, Thornaby, from the English Industrial Estates Corporation.

Indtec Engineering, who currently occupy small premises in Middlesbrough, will build a factory of 7,000 sq. ft. on the site they are acquiring to allow the necessary expansion of production. The company is engaged in specialist engineering including hydraulics and pneumatics. It also has an Industrial Plumbing Department currently involved in the construction of North Sea Oil Platforms.

About 30 men will be employed in the premises when full production is reached.

Record number of jobs promoted in Northern Ireland last year

Northern Ireland completed in 1973 its most successful year in providing new employment and diversifying the economy. Almost 10,000 new jobs were promoted, the highest for any single year, the Minister of Commerce, Mr. John Hume, has announced.

Northern Ireland's previous best year was 1961 with the promotion of just over 8,500 new jobs.

'It is particularly encouraging that no less than 67 per cent of the new jobs were for males and that some 52 per cent of the total was for traditionally high unemployment areas such as Londonderry and Newry,' said Mr. Hume.

The total figure includes the proposed £25 million project near Londonderry for Courtaulds and the planned expansion at Newry by Grundig.

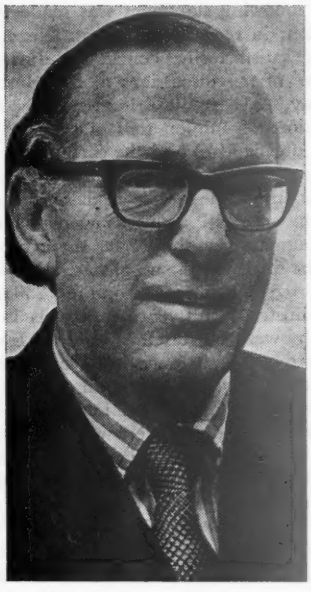
Equally important is the fact in achieving such a figure Northern Ireland clearly reinforced its position as a base for foreign companies. In 1973, after a lapse of a couple of years, there was a reactivation of West German industrial interest, and this was followed by new projects from Canada, Holland, the USA and Sweden, the latter being the first project from that country to locate in Northern Ireland.

This upswing in interest in Northern Ireland's industrial potential was underlined by the number of industrialists who came to Northern Ireland to assess its potential. In 1973 representatives of 37 companies from Great Britain without existing investments in the Province, undertook visits, compared with 19 in 1972. A total of 56 visits emanated from foreign countries compared with 28 the previous year.

The 1973 jobs figure includes promotions by the Department of Commerce, the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation and the Local Enterprise Development Unit which is Northern Ireland's 'aid small industry' agency.

Co-ordinator of DTI industrial advisers

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry has approved the appointment of Stephen Baker, 47, as co-ordinator of the DTI industrial advisers. On 1 February he succeeded Ken Griffin, a former trade union official, who is to be a part-time member of the National Coal Board.



Stephen Baker.

Mr. Baker, who has an honours degree in mechanical sciences, joined the DTI last May on secondment from Kearney and Trecker Ltd., machine tool makers. In his previous post as managing director of Davy Ashmore companies, he was responsible for steel-making and steel-rolling projects at home and overseas.

The other DTI industrial adviser is Peter Weigall, former managing director of Monteshell, a company owned by Shell and Montedison. Further appointments as industrial advisers are expected shortly.

Industrial advisers were brought into government in 1964 to give departments up-to-date and independent experience and advice in the formulation of industrial policies. They serve in a department for two or three years before returning to industry.

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Industrial and commercial property

Parliament

Monday, 28 January

Trade agreement with Iran
The following statement was made by Mr. Walker, in reply to a request. 'Negotiations were satisfactorily concluded during the course of my discussions at St. Moritz last Friday. As a result Britain will receive an additional 5 million tons of crude oil from Iran during 1974 and the early part of 1975 and will supply £110 million worth of British goods during the same period. The oil will be purchased by BP acting as agents for HMG. Parliamentary authority for the expenditure will be sought in the usual way. We reviewed the progress being made on the £250 million of industrial joint-venture projects in Iran, which were negotiated at the Iran/UK Investment Conference last November. We also agreed to examine at an early date the potentialities for Iranian investment in the UK and agreed that there were many spheres in which substantial investments from Iran into UK industry and technology could be of mutual benefit to both countries. This agreement marks a further important stage in the valuable and increasing inter-relationship between the economies of Iran and Britain.'

Commodity prices
In answer to a request for a further statement on the trend in commodity prices, Mr. Walker said: 'Between December 1972 and December 1973 the *Economist* World Commodity Price Index rose from 170.2 to 269 – in the previous nine years the index rose by 70.2. In the last year alone it has risen by 98.8. The latest announced increases in oil prices will have a further impact in the first months of 1974.'

Trade with EEC
Questions were asked on the UK balance of trade deficit with the rest of the EEC in 1973, the percentage increase for British exports to the EEC for 1973, and the comparable percentage increase for EEC imports into Great Britain. Mr. Walker answered that the deficit for 1973 was £1,120 million, and the percentage increases for exports and imports were 37 per cent and 48 per cent respectively. Answering a further question—on the surplus or deficit in visible trade trade of the UK with the original six EEC countries in 1973 – Mr. Walker said: 'The "crude" trade deficit (ie the difference between imports cif and exports fob) was £1,115 million; the deficit on a balance of payments basis with the original six EEC countries is not available for 1973.'

Trade with Japan
Mr. Chataway was asked to make a statement on the extent and nature of agreement made with Japanese industry relating to participation in industrial and commercial projects in the UK, with particular regard to offshore oil operations. He answered: 'In my recent visit to Japan I reached understandings with the Japanese Government about co-operation in a number of fields. The Japanese are interested in setting up industrial projects in the UK, either on their own or in joint ventures with British concerns. I have warmly welcomed this, because of the contribution it can make to our economy and to our trading position. As for individual projects my Department will be in consultation with the companies concerned whether Japanese or British. It is too early yet to say whether the Japanese will participate in off-shore supply operations.'

In another question, a Member stated that the names of British manufacturing companies were being registered by Japanese companies in Japan and that this created problems for British exporters to Japan. Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked to make representations with the object of seeking to put an end to this practice. Sir Geoffrey said: 'My Department has always strongly recommended British exporters to register their trademarks and trade names in Japan in their own name at the earliest opportunity and is prepared to seek the co-operation of the Japanese authorities where there is evidence of unfair competition. The best security, however, can be obtained only if British companies are careful to take adequate steps in good time for their own protection by ensuring proper registration in the first place.'

Unsolicited Goods and Services Act
Asked if he was satisfied with the working of the Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971, Mr. Onslow said: 'The Act appears to be working as intended, but I am watching its operation closely in the light of recent developments.'

Expenditure in the Northern Region
Mr. Walker told a Member who wanted a list of the amounts by which expenditure would be reduced in the Northern Region for 1974-75, that DTI expenditure in the assisted areas (of which the Northern region forms part) was expected to increase in 1974-75. The amount would depend upon what eligible projects became available under the 1972 Industry Act.

Holiday travel brochures
Mr. Onslow told a Member who asked if he was satisfied with the operation of the Trade Descriptions Act in relation to holiday travel brochures, that he believed the Act gave consumers substantial protection against false or misleading statements in holiday travel brochures. Mr. Onslow said that Sir Geoffrey Howe was considering whether the

Ministers at the Department of Trade and Industry

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Mr. Peter Walker

Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs: Sir Geoffrey Howe
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade: Lord Limerick

Minister for Industrial Development: Mr. Christopher Chataway
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development: Mr. Anthony Grant

Minister for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Michael Heseltine
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace, Shipping, and Consumer Affairs: Mr. Cranley Onslow

Minister without Portfolio: Lord Aberdare

Ministers at the Department of Energy

Secretary of State for Energy: Lord Carrington

Minister for Energy: Mr. Patrick Jenkin

Minister of State: Mr. David Howell
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy: Mr. Peter Emery

time had come to review this and other aspects of its operation.

Glass containers
'I have received a number of representations about the shortage of glass containers,' said Mr. Grant in reply to a question. 'The glass industry is doing everything possible to alleviate the situation and, in particular, to meet the needs of the dairy trade, and the food, drinks and pharmaceutical sectors.'

Yoghourt
Standardised prescribed quantities for the sale of yoghourt were suggested by a Member. Mr. Onslow replied that there was undoubtedly scope for reducing the variety of existing practices within the trade, and he intended to invite trade and consumer interests to suggest possible means of rationalisation.

US Candy Quota
A Member asked if representations would be made to the US Government concerning the consequences for the UK of the Candy Quota introduced by the United States Sugar Act of 1971 and due to be renewed in 1974. Mr. Onslow replied: 'Her Majesty's Government has made representations to the US Administration about the confectionery quota four times since 1971. With our accession to the EEC the Commission have taken up the matter and are seeking a satisfactory solution through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.'

Aviation fuel
A question was asked on the likely level of shortfall of supply of aviation fuel; and the estimated effect upon the finances of British Airways and other UK carriers.

Mr. Heseltine replied: 'My Rt. hon. and noble friend the Secretary of State for Energy is examining the prospects for all fuels. While he cannot at present predict what the level of availability of aviation fuel might be in the coming months he has no reason to believe that the incoming supply will deteriorate in the near future. In the present period of adjustment to the new regime of fuel scarcity and in the absence of firm information on future supplies the extent of any financial damage to the airline cannot yet be estimated.'

Mr. Heseltine was also asked whether the standards of safety on British airlines had been affected by the present shortage of aviation fuel. 'The general shortage of aviation fuel has resulted in there being certain areas in which only wide-cut fuel is available,' he answered. 'I am advised by the Civil Aviation Authority who are responsible for safety matters that danger from fire may be greater with this fuel in the event of certain types of accident. In view of the rarity of these circumstances the use of wide-cut fuel has only a marginal effect on safety but British airlines have been advised by the CAA to use kerosene wherever it is obtainable.'

Answering a suggestion that British Airways should be prohibited the use of low flash-point fuel, Mr. Heseltine said: 'No sir. The Civil Aviation Authority advise me that although JP1 (aviation kerosene) is the preferred fuel the additional risk from using JP4 (wide-cut gasolene) is only marginal.'

Seahorse marine engine
Mr. Chataway was asked to make a statement on the development of the Seahorse marine engine. 'This engine is being developed by Doxford Hawthorn Research Services Ltd.' he said. 'The Department is keeping itself informed of the progress of its development. The company has made certain proposals to the Department which are being considered.'

Light aircraft
Replying to a question about discussions with the Civil Aviation Authority and with representatives of flying clubs about reducing the accident rate for light aircraft, Mr. Heseltine said: 'The safety performance of light aircraft is a matter for the Civil Aviation Authority but I know from recent discussions I have had with the Chairman that this is one of the subjects that the Authority have under continuous review.'

EC shipbuilding policy
A Member inquired about discussions between the Secretary of State and the European Commission regarding the limitation of national subsidies to shipbuilding in the next stage of the Community's shipbuilding policy. Mr. Grant replied that the Commission formally submitted proposals on these matters to the Council of Ministers on 5 November 1973. The proposals were now being discussed by a Working Group of officials from the member countries.

Shipping
What information was there, a Member wanted to know, about cargo in Great Britain waiting for late uplift because of ships' slower sailing. 'We have made inquiries with the British Shippers' Council, the Institute of Freight Forwarders and the Chamber of Shipping about delays in the shipment of cargo from this country,' Mr. Heseltine answered. 'But we have received no evidence that any significant volume of cargo has been held up here because of the slower sailing of ships.'

Flags of convenience
'The Government are opposed to flag discrimination both in coastal and international trades,' said Mr. Heseltine in reply to a question on Government policy over the use of flags of convenience on vessels serving the oil rigs. 'We do not therefore forbid the servicing of oil rigs by ships of particular flags.'

World energy problems
Mr. Jenkin was asked to give details of the common energy policy which HMG would be presenting at the energy conference in Washington. 'Our broad aim will be to bring about effective international collaboration in solving current world energy problems,' he said.

Common Energy Policy
A White Paper was suggested on a Common Energy Policy covering coal, North Sea gas, North Sea oil and nuclear energy. 'I believe it would be wise to allow present uncertainties to clear before considering publishing a White Paper,' answered Mr. Jenkin. 'I would certainly expect any such document to deal with all the aspects referred to.'

Power cuts
A Member asked if the Minister for Energy would, in the event of cuts of electric power being made to industry, permit the timing of those cuts to be made by individual factories where the supply was by meter and the percentage of total cut-back could be easily verified. Mr. Emery answered: 'No. If rota disconnections become necessary it is essential for the control of the System that they be made in accordance with the detailed rota plans already published by Electricity Boards.'

Coal industry
Mr. Jenkin was asked to break down into its components the £1,100 million committed to the coal industry in 1973 by HMG, indicating which component was written off debt, how much of the £1,100 million had already been spent, how much was specifically committed for expenditure, under what headings that expenditure had taken place or would take place, and over what time scale that expenditure was envisaged. Mr. Jenkin answered that the Coal Industry Act 1973 provided for:

1 for the National Coal Board's assets to be written down by £275 million
2 their accumulated deficits up to 31 March 1973 of £175 million to be written off
3 grants to the industry of up to £695 million spread over the years 1973-4 to 1977-8. The purposes and maximum amounts of these grants are set out in the Act.

In the year 1973-4 the published estimate of support for the coal industry was £154.6 million. Estimates for future expenditure would be laid before the House at the appropriate times.

Dangers to health of coal mining
Referring to the evidence of the damage to health attributable to working in the coal industry contained in *The Lancet*, a Member asked if the Minister for Energy would direct the National Coal Board to draw up plans for improving the working conditions and general environment of this industry. Mr Emery replied: 'There have been considerable improvements in the mining environment over the past 20 years and marked reductions in the incidence of diseases associated with mining. The Board are continuing their efforts.

'I have had extensive consultation with both sides of industry on new comprehensive regulations which I hope will be operative during the year. They provide for the measurement and reduction of respirable dust levels and medical supervision of those at risk.'

Other questions concerned the publication of information on the medical effects of mining coal upon those engaged in the mining industry, as a health warning to those contemplating entering the industry. Mr. Emery answered that statistical information about industrial diseases in coal mines was published in the annual reports of HM Chief Inspector of Mines and Quarries and the published annual reports of the National Coal Board's Medical Service gave a detailed account of medical conditions in the industry.

Parliament continued

Oil imports
An estimate was asked for of the cost in 1974 of Great Britain's oil imports, assuming that the quantity supplied to be the same as in 1973. Mr. Jenkin said that if the quantity of crude oil imported in 1974 were to be the same as in 1973 and if the present level of prices and exchange rates were to hold throughout the year, the cost of Great Britain's crude oil imports in 1974 would be over £3,000 million.

Diesel and fuel oils
'While the situation on all oil products remains very tight, and we may have to ask for further economies, there is no immediate prospect of critical shortfalls in the supply of diesel and fuel oil,' said Mr. Jenkin. He was replying to a question on the availability of these oils and the anticipated shortfall over the next two months.

Petrol rationing
A statement on petrol rationing was asked for. Mr. Jenkin said: 'The need for petrol rationing has so far been avoided because the reduced deliveries to petrol stations have been matched by the economies that motorists have made. The future position will depend on developments in the energy situation. It remains important that all petrol users should continue to exercise restraint.'

Petrol supplies
A question was put on the percentage reduction in the allocation of petrol supplies in the United Kingdom for November, December and January. Mr. Emery answered that the restrictions on deliveries of oil were not introduced until 20 November 1973. From that date until 31 January 1974 the allocation of petrol supplies had been based on a 10 per cent reduction in deliveries made in the corresponding period a year ago. The allocation scheme, however, provided for a supplementary allocation to be granted on appeal in cases where there had been a marked change in circumstances during 1973.

Geothermal power
'What investigations,' a Member asked 'are being made into the exploitation of geothermal power in Cleveland where test borings for other purposes are reported to have produced results indicating the suitability of this area?' Mr. Emery answered: 'The Government keeps under review the general situation and prospects for geothermal energy in this country but we are not aware of any specific investigations related to the Cleveland area. I shall, of course be pleased to receive any special information that the hon. Member may have.'

Nuclear power
Questioned about the current situation with regard to nuclear reactors policy, Mr. Jenkin said: 'The question of thermal reactor choice is currently under consideration by the Nuclear Power Advisory Board. The Government will reach a decision on this matter after receiving the Board's advice.'

Mr. Jenkin was asked whether, in considering the type of nuclear reactor to be used in new electricity plants, he would take into account the fact that 'safe' reactors, such as Magnox, could be sited comparatively near to centres of population, and that the surplus low grade heat from them could thus be used for district heating schemes and for other useful purposes. 'The merits of each of the reactor systems under consideration are being carefully assessed by the Nuclear Power Advisory Board,' he answered. 'Under present policy, nuclear power stations may not be sited close to dense urban populations and there is thus little scope for using low grade heat from them for district heating or other purposes.'

North Sea oil
Mr. Emery was asked how much of the £1,000 million investment in North Sea oil and gas exploration by the end of 1973 was investment belonging to British nationalised industries. 'National Coal Board's and British Gas Corporation's share of currently licenced territory is approximately 8 per cent,' he said. 'Their share of the £1,000 million expenditure to the end of 1973 is approximately £100 million.'

Asked whether the EEC would have any control over the pricing or distribution of North Sea oil, Mr. Emery said: 'The terms and conditions under which companies operate on the British Section of the Continental Shelf are the responsibility of the British Government.' Another question was on the arrangements made between HMG and the international oil companies about the sharing of profits from North Sea oil. Mr. Emery replied that licensees were required to pay rental and royalty of 12½ per cent of the wellhead value of the oil. They were also subject to corporation tax. The Secretary of State for Energy was currently examining all aspects of licensing policy and the financial benefits that accrued.

A Member who asked to what extent the system of royalty payments would be considered when final agreements were reached between HMG and the oil companies, was told by Mr. Jenkin: 'All aspects of licensing terms are currently under review.'

Tuesday, 29 January

Tariff concessions
A Member asked for what countries and for what main products UK tariff concessions in products not included in the EEC GSP would be phased out; and what was the value of such products currently imported. Sir Geoffrey Howe answered: 'The tariff concessions granted by the UK but excluded from the GSP of the EEC, are mainly in primary products and the processed agricultural sector. They will be phased out except for those beneficiaries associated with the EEC or eligible for Association; for them the UK GSP scheme is maintained for the present.

'Although the number of tariff headings affected is large the trade is significant in only a few cases. Among the more important items are certain types of leather from India and certain dried vegetables from Ethiopia and the Lebanon. The trade in this leather cannot be readily quantified because of problems of definition: but India can make use of the Joint Commission for discussing her trade problems with the EEC. Our imports of the dried vegetables from the countries concerned were about £1½ million in 1972: the Common Customs Tariff rates of duty on them are relatively low. In the industrial sector Hong Kong's exports of footwear do not enjoy preference in the current Community scheme. Our 1972 imports were £11 million. Palm oil is among the products which are not currently in the EEC scheme but are still under consideration in the Community. Malaysia and Singapore sent us some £17½ million-worth under preference in 1972. The same countries sent us canned pineapples worth £3 million in 1972. The EEC are opening a duty free GSP quota for some part of this trade.'

Another question was on the extent to which the Commercial Co-operation Agreement between EEC and India involved immediate trade concessions to India, other than those in the final EEC GSP for 1974.

Sir Geoffrey replied that tariff reductions in addition to those incorporated in the Community's generalised preference scheme for 1974 were contained in the recent jute textiles agreement. The Commercial Co-operation Agreement was designed to provide the framework for further reduction of trade barriers in the future.

Unsolicited circulars
Referring to the unsolicited circularisation to 10-year-old children of invitations to obtain a 30-day free supply of vitamin tablets, a Member asked if urgent steps would be taken to end such advertising methods. 'I should regard it as deplorable if such circulars were being deliberately distributed to children', answered Mr. Onslow. 'I hope the hon. Member will let me have any evidence he has of this.'

Electric heating
Mr. Emery was asked what exemptions had been made to Statutory Instrument No. 2092 for the use of direct electrical heating in public halls; and whether the procedure to be followed for the issue of a licence would be published. He replied: 'Apart from those specified in the Order, I have made no general exemptions. Any case of special difficulty will be considered on its merits on application to the appropriate regional office of the Department of Trade and Industry.'

Coalmining
In answer to a question Mr. Emery said that the average net manpower loss per week by the National Coal Board in November 1969 was 340. In November 1973 the corresponding figure was 589.

Mr. Emery was also asked what would be the average basic wage for a 40-hour week for underground workers in the coal mining industry if they accepted the current offer from the National Coal Board. He replied that the working week underground in the coal industry was five shifts each of 7¼ hrs

plus one winding time. Under the N.C.B.'s present offer the basic wage for this week would be as follows:

Men on the National Power Loading Agreement (Face workers)		£39.36
Plus £1.20 pence productivity	=	£40.56
Non Craftsmen Underground (min rate)		£29.86
Plus £1.20 productivity	=	£31.06

Mr. Emery continued: 'In addition workers receive benefits in kind currently worth on average £2.64 per week.

'This projects acceptance of a 3½ per cent productivity deal which is part of the NCB offer.'

Nuclear research

Stating that Command Paper No. 5519 on Public Expenditure showed a planned reduction in expenditure on nuclear research from £61.2 million in 1973-74 to £18.0 million in 1977-78, a Member asked for a statement on the Government's commitment to research into nuclear fusion. Mr. Jenkin said: 'Following the Government's announcement of 22 March 1973, expenditure on fusion research is being increased. The research forms part of the co-ordinated programme of the European Community. The full cost over the three years to 31 December 1975 is estimated at £17 million: part of this will be met by Euratom.

'The forecasts in Command Paper No 5519 of net nuclear expenditure cover not only research and development but also other expenditure and receipts, including receipts of the Atomic Energy Authority from the sale of uranium ore. The net provision for research and development is £51.9 million in 1973-74 decreasing to £30.6 million in 1977-78. As shown by paragraph 20 on page 39 of the Command Paper, the greater part of this is on nuclear reactor research and development. The net provision for other research and development in 1973-74 and 1977-78 is £8.4 million and £8.2 million respectively: this allows for expenditure on fusion research to be maintained at its current level.'

North Sea oil

A question was put on the British share of ownership in the consortium which received licences for North Sea oil exploration in each of the four separate rounds of distribution of licences; the British share in the consortia who are licence holders for the fields already established; and the latest estimate of the British share of total North Sea oil production. Mr. Howell provided the following table setting out on a round-by-round basis the percentage share of territory licensed to British interests (taking Shell as 40 per cent British) when the licences were first issued.

		British interest
First round		26.2 per cent
Second round		28.3 per cent
Third round		36.4 per cent
Fourth round	(i) Auction	20.0 per cent
	(ii) Discretionary	34.8 per cent
	(iii) Total	34.0 per cent

Mr. Howell went on: 'Because of uncertainties about the exact size of the fields so far considered to be commercial it is not possible to give a firm figure for the British share. It is estimated however that the share of recoverable reserves held by British interests in these fields is some 40-50 per cent or about 300-400 million tons. If further appraisal drilling confirms that other finds already reported are commercial the latter figures could be higher.'

Wednesday, 30 January

North Sea oil rigs

A Member asked if reciprocal arrangements would be sought with the United States so that US vessels could serve North Sea oil rigs, and UK vessels could serve rigs off the USA. 'No Sir,' replied Mr. Onslow. 'Such action would in any case be unlikely to succeed, in view of the US Government's traditional reservation of such trade to ships of its own flag: and any threat to exclude US ships from work on North Sea oil rigs would prejudice the swift development of these essential resources, as well as being inconsistent with our liberal approach to participation in the coastal trades.'

Oil allocations in February

Answering a request for a statement on oil allocations in February, Mr. Jenkin said: 'I do not propose to change the present level of allocations; some adjustments for the February allocations will be made to reflect the seasonal pattern of consumption.'

Advertising appeals to save electricity

The cost of the advertising space on television, and in newspapers, etc., on the appeals to save electricity was sought. Mr. Emery answered that advertising appeals to save electricity had cost £593,051 for television and £88,989 for newspapers.

Thursday, 31 January

Effects of three-day week

Mr. Walker said, in reply to a question, that the DTI had as yet no quantitative measure of the effect of three day working on export orders. 'The indications are that there will be a deteriorating situation so long as industrial action in the mines creates the necessity of a short working week,' he said.

Alternative sources of energy

Mr. Jenkin said, in reply to a question, 'The Government has been involved in a range of research programmes into alternative energy sources and energy conservation. However, in the light of new developments the level and type of Government sponsored research into energy is now being comprehensively reviewed.'

Oil prices

A question was asked on the price per gallon of oil delivered for industrial and domestic heating in December 1972 and on 1 January 1974, respectively. Mr. Jenkin replied that, apart from the main factor of cost ex-refinery, the final price of heating oil for the consumer depended upon factors such as the geographical zone, delivery charges, discounts, and distributors' margins. However, taking for illustration scheduled wholesale prices for bulk deliveries in the Inner Zone (mostly the larger conurbations), the picture for December 1972 as compared with December 1973 (the latest available figures) was as follows in terms of pence per gallon:

	December 1972	December 1973
Gas oil	10.33 p	14.93p to 16.43p
Burning oil (standard grade)	11.42p	14.75p to 16.02p
Paraffin	12.67p	15.62p to 17.87p

The increase in prices stemmed primarily from higher crude oil costs imposed by producer countries, but also included elements of higher freight costs, currency fluctuations, and other factors.

Friday, 1 February

Polish coal

Mr. Walker was asked if he had held discussions with the Polish authorities regarding their willingness to supply coal for UK consumption. 'The Polish authorities have been interested for some time in the possibility of long term arrangements for the supply of Polish coal to the UK market,' he answered. 'Consequently, I and officials of my Department have had a number of discussions with them on this subject over the past year.'

Petrochemical products

Information was sought on the prices of high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, styrene, polystyrene and PVC in January 1973, June 1973 and January 1974 and the percentage of the total UK market in each petrochemical product covered by imports. Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that price information in respect of the products mentioned was not available. Estimates of imports expressed as a percentage of UK home demand, where available, were as follows:

	1st qtr. 1973	2nd qtr. 1973	3rd qtr. 1973
	%	%	%
Styrene polymers and copolymers	14	14	16
PVC resins, solutions, emulsions and dispersions	20	20	22
PVC moulding and extrusion compounds	3	6	8

Fuel crisis: advertising expenditure

Mr. Emery was asked to give the amounts spent by his department on advertising in (a) newspapers, (b) radio, and (c) television, in each of the weeks since the declaration of the state of emergency on 16 November, giving a breakdown on a weekly basis. 'The weekly expenditure on advertising from 16 November up to and including 28 January is set out below,' he said. 'This covers fuel economy advertising, the publication of information about new restrictions on the use of electricity and advertising related to the issue of petrol coupons.

Week ending	Newspapers	TV	Radio
	£	£	£
23.11.73	50,672	53,090	—
30.11.73	140,259	158,009	5,214
7.12.73	93,593	76,970	—
14.12.73	40,196	55,801	—
21.12.73	143,626	117,670	—
28.12.73	120,194	81,478	—
4.1.74	—	42,478	—
11. 1.74	—	38,862	—
18. 1.74	30,536	117,532	3,932
25. 1.74	—	129,045	3,806
26-28. 1.74	101,351	58,808	—

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Australia: prospects bright for British exports

L. Bevan, Counsellor Commercial, Canberra

Little more than a year ago the Australian Labor Party was returned to power in Federal Parliament, for the first time in 23 years, on a platform which, in certain respects, frankly espoused the cause of 'economic nationalism'. At that time, too, many British exporters were concerned about the possible effect on their interests of the termination of the United Kingdom/Australian Trade Agreement, following Britain's entry into the European Economic Community on 1 January 1973.

How do things look now, a year later?

Briefly – and subject, of course, to the inevitable caveat about the future level of world economic activity – the prospects for British exports are bright. Although the outlook for new business in some areas of the invisible sector is clouded, the situation is not as gloomy as some would appear to think.

The prospect for visible exports

In this context the principal factor is the basic, long-term strength of the Australian economy. In a resource-hungry world, Australia has, in abundance, many of the minerals on which world industry depends for its continued operation and expansion. After something of a pause in 1971/72, the Australian economy is again riding high on an export-led boom. In the year to 30 June 1973, exports were 27 per cent up on the previous year; the surplus on the balance of payments was a record $A2,205 million and, at $A4,331 million, the reserves were embarrassingly high. In the year to 30 June 1974, GNP is expected to grow by 7 per cent in real terms. Aggregate demand, especially consumer spending, continues to grow strongly and there are clear signs of a recovery in private investment in plant and equipment. Public expenditure is rising fast. Output and employment continue to increase, and unemployment is down to 1.04 per cent of the labour force. In short, the economy is currently operating at full capacity and indeed is over-stretched in some sectors.

Inflation

This, together with the effect of high world commodity prices on primary producers' incomes, has once again made inflation the most immediate economic problem confronting the Australian Government. In the 12 months to 30 September, the Consumer Price Index rose by 10.2 per cent, of which 6.9 per cent occurred in the second six months.

Since December 1972 the Australian dollar has been revalued twice; by an effective 7.05 per cent against the US dollar on 23 December 1972 and by a further 5.0 per cent on 9 September 1973. As a result the current market rate for sterling (£1 = $A1.60) is some 17½ per cent below the rate on 1 December 1972 and nearly 27 per cent below the rate obtaining on 24 June 1972 when the £ was first floated. Although both the US dollar and the Japanese yen have also depreciated against the Australian dollar, the currency realignments of the past 12 to 18 months – even allowing for inflation in Britain – have undoubtedly improved the price competitiveness of British goods in the Australian market compared with those of our other main competitors. This has resulted in a marked increase in inquiries for British goods from Australian importers – particularly for high quality consumer items. There has been a strong resurgence of interest in store promotions featuring British goods and British exhibitors in international trade fairs in Australia have reported increasingly good business.

Australian tariffs cut

The second measure of significance for British exporters was the decision announced on 18 July to make an across-the-board cut of 25 per cent in all tariffs (excluding revenue items and anti-dumping duties). The declared objective of this move was 'to restrain price increases by increased competition and by stimulating a sufficiently large inflow of additional imports to help meet present demands'. Although primarily intended to counter inflation, the decision to cut tariffs also reflects the more systematic, consumer-orientated approach of the Australian Labor Government to the general question of protection for Australian industry. Last December legislation was passed in Federal Parliament to establish an Industries Assistance Commission. This is to be an independent advisory body, very similar in character to the old Tariff Board but having much wider scope. It is responsible for advising the Government on the appropriate level of assistance, of whatever kind, to be given not only to secondary manufacturing industry, but also to industries in the primary and tertiary sectors. In addition to reporting on specific references, the Commission will have power to initiate inquiries into industries whose assistance has been unchanged or unreviewed for at least 10 years. This, the Australian Government hopes, will eventually result in a more coherent and rational policy by Government towards industrial development in Australia.

The revaluation of the Australian dollar and the 25 per cent cut in tariffs have helped to offset the immediate effects of the termination on 31 January 1973 of the UK/Australia Trade Agreement and the disappearance of the formal basis for British preferential tariffs in the Australian market.

To date the only major change in our preferences has been the withdrawal, with effect from 1 February 1973, of the 7½ per cent preference previously enjoyed by British imports entered under by-laws in the Australian tariff and the extension of the list of items qualifying for by-law entry. (Goods enter under by-law when, in the opinion of the Australian Department of Customs, 'no suitable equivalent is reasonably available from Australian sources'.) As a result of the withdrawal of our by-law preferences, such imports now enter Australia duty-free from all sources.

Further moves towards the elimination of British preferences may be expected (and in a few cases in relation to individual products, have already been made) as a result of recommendations by the Tariff Board (or its proposed successor, the Industries Assistance Commission). The Tariff Board, in addition to investigating specific cases referred to it by the Australian Government, has for some time now been carrying out a general review of the tariff, starting with those areas of high protection which have not been examined in recent years. The review is expected to take until 1977-78 to complete, but reports on individual industries will be issued separately as they are approved. A single rate of duty will apply to items covered by these and other tariff reports in future. The Australian Government is also considering what use they may be able to make of our preferences as bargaining coin in the current GATT multinational trade negotiations.

The overall trend seems to be towards a lowering of the general level of tariff protection in Australia. However, as our preferences are eroded, British exporters will increasingly have to compete on level terms with other overseas suppliers in the Australian market. Given the success they have had in other markets where they have no preference, or face reverse preferences, British exporters should be well able to win a substantial share of the additional business offered by the present favourable climate for imports in Australia.

A 25 per cent increase in imports

The Australian Treasury has estimated that imports into Australia will increase by something of the order of 25 per cent over the year to June 1974. On present form this looks like being a conservative estimate. It is unlikely that either the July tariff cuts or the September revaluation have yet had much effect on imports. Even so, recorded imports in the September quarter of 1973 (excluding military aircraft) show an increase of 30 per cent over the corresponding quarter of 1972, reflecting the effect of the December 1972 revaluation and the strong revival in economic activity. While there are obvious dangers in making judgments based on short-term statistics, the

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figures quoted here clearly reinforce other indicators pointing to an upsurge in Australian imports, which could well take them to a figure exceeding $A5,000 million (£3,125 million) in 1974.

A special drive

With this in mind, we in the British High Commission in Australia have re-examined our list of target products and, in consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry in London, have selected certain product groups as the basis for a special export drive in Britain during the first half of 1974, when two teams of experienced commercial officers from the British Consulates-General in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth are expected to visit Britain for detailed discussions with exporters of the selected products interested in the Australian market.

It must be emphasised, however, that the product groups selected for this exercise represent only part of the wide range of British goods for which there are export opportunities in Australia. Some idea of the wide ranging nature of the demand for imports in Australia, how it has changed over the past five years and who our main competitors are, may be obtained from a study of the following table.

A 30 per cent increase in earnings

It will be seen that Britain is still Australia's principal supplier for a number of important products and a major supplier, along with Japan, the United States and the German Federal Republic, for a number of others. Given the improvement in the comparative prices of British goods in the Australian market, it would seem that British exporters are particularly well placed to take full and profitable advantage of the current upsurge in the Australian demand for imports. This would seem to be confirmed by the UK trade statistics for the first 10 months of 1973. These show British exports to Australia to be running at well over £1 million a day and, at £333 million, to be 31.6 per cent up on the corresponding figure for 1972. Even allowing for price increases, this represents a substantial and encouraging increase in the volume of exports to Australia.

Invisibles and investment

Much has been said and written since the Australian Government came to power in December 1972 about the so-called 'new nationalism', with discussion centring on the Labor Government's approach to overseas investment. It is worth remembering, however, that there were signs of growing economic nationalism long before December 1972 and that in large part the Labor Government's call 'to reverse the trend towards foreign control of Australian resources' simply reflects the marked change in Australia's economic situation in recent years. As a result of increased export earnings from minerals, what had long been regarded as a chronic deficit on the current account balance of payments has disappeared – apparently for good – and with it has gone the obvious necessity for overseas investment and borrowing to fill the gap. Few people, having the money to buy a house, would be content to go on paying rent. The analogy is crude and cannot be pressed too far, but it serves to explain why the Labor Government is pursuing a policy of a more selective approach to new foreign investment in Australia, including investment through takeovers of existing Australian enterprises.

The aim of the new policy is to promote Australian control of and to achieve the highest possible level of

Australia's imports: a five-year comparison

Product	Total imports 1968-69 $AM	Total imports 1972-73 $AM	% change between 1968-69 & 1972-73	Main sources and values of imports 1972-73 $AM
Organic chemicals	81.0	99.5	22.9	USA 34.0, UK 20.0, Japan 17.7
Inorganic chemicals	26.9	42.6	58.4	USA 10.5, Japan 8.2, UK 6.9
Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	19.0	29.3	54.2	UK 9.2, German FR 7.0, USA 4.3
Medical and pharmaceutical products	39.8	65.7	67.6	UK 17.6, USA 12.9, German FR 12.3
Essential oils, perfume, toilet and polishing preparations	14.3	18.3	28.0	UK 5.3, USA 4.6, France 1.9
Plastic materials, artificial resins	80.5	105.3	30.8	UK 31.8, USA 25.0, Japan 20.6
Tyres and tubes	22.1	38.8	75.6	Japan 13.8, UK 10.4, USA 3.8
Iron and steel	95.9	108.6	13.2	Japan 67.4, UK 12.6, USA 7.9
Non-ferrous metals	26.7	24.2	−9.4	UK 7.9, USA 4.4, Japan 4.1
Manufactures of metal n.e.s.	79.3	104.3	31.5	UK 28.6, USA 21.8, Japan 19.3
Internal combustion piston engines	73.2	76.5	4.5	USA 35.4, UK 22.7, German FR 6.8
Tractors	40.9	37.2	−9.0	UK 20.3, USA 8.7
Calculating and statistical punch card machines	42.0	90.5	115.5	USA 32.0, UK 19.8, Japan 13.4
Machine tools for working metals	37.3	30.1	−19.3	UK 8.8, German FR 6.5, USA 4.8
Textile and leather machinery	34.2	44.0	28.6	UK 10.5, Switzerland 7.6, Japan 6.8
Excavating, levelling, boring machinery, etc.	54.2	65.4	20.7	USA 34.0, Japan 13.2, UK 8.0
Other non-electric machinery	326.7	343.0	5.0	USA 107.5, UK 90.9, German FR 50.4
Electric power machinery and switchgear	64.4	73.0	13.4	UK 25.6, USA 14.3, Japan 12.9
Telecommunication apparatus	48.5	53.1	9.5	Japan 22.9, USA 7.4, Belg/Lux. 5.2
Other electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	102.1	151.3	48.2	USA 36.2, UK 34.7, Japan 29.0
Vehicles and parts	270.7	291.7	7.8	Japan 107.7, UK 57.0, USA 52.8
Aircraft and parts (excluding engines)	131.3	103.1	−21.3	USA 83.3, France 8.7, UK 7.3
Ships and other floating structures	76.9	71.3	−7.9	UK 24.1, Japan 22.4, USA 12.2
Clothing and accessories and footwear	40.5	86.1	113.1	Hong Kong 20.5, Taiwan 13.7, China 2.0
Photographic equipment and supplies	40.7	55.1	35.4	USA 17.1, UK 12.9, Japan 9.2
Professional, scientific and optical goods, etc.	60.3	83.2	38.0	USA 18.5, UK 16.4, Japan 13.5
Printed matter	55.4	80.7	44.6	UK 37.5, USA 22.6, Hong Kong 5.9

Australian ownership of Australian industries and resources. By the phrase 'the highest possible level of ownership' is meant the highest Australian equity that can be achieved in negotiations, project by project, that are fair and reasonable to both parties and are within the capacity of Australia's domestic savings to support. The policy thus recognises that Australia's resources of capital and technology are limited, relative to the size of her development task, and that overseas capital must continue to play a significant role in Australia's future economic growth; but preferably as a partner, and clearly on terms which Australia considers best serve her national interest.

New overseas investment has long been excluded from certain sensitive sectors, such as commercial banking, airlines and broadcasting. The list of such sensitive areas has now been extended to cover new overseas investment for the establishment of new foreign-controlled life and general insurance companies; the establishment of non-bank financial institutions and the purchase of real estate (other than where this is a necessary adjunct to other development, eg land for a factory site). In new development projects involving energy sources (ie uranium, oil, natural gas and black coal) the objective – as far as is practicable within the recognised limits of Australia's domestic resources of capital and technology – is 100 per cent Australian ownership. Proposed increases in the percentage of foreign equity in existing projects in the energy field, which already have high overseas equity, will be subject to close scrutiny. For other minerals and in respect of manufacturing industry in general, the approach to new overseas investment (and takeovers) is more flexible and is essentially pragmatic. Each case will be considered on its merits, taking into account the full circumstances of each new project or proposal, including such factors as the size and location of the project, the use made of advanced technology, marketing arrangements, environmental aspects, labour relations and Aboriginal interests.

Plenty of scope

In short, there is no general prohibition on foreign investment in Australia and outside the sensitive sectors the prospects for growth are undoubtedly considerable. The prospects are also good for increased invisible earnings from m.u.l. agreements, the sale of patent rights to Australian industry and the provision of new technology, especially by consultants with branch offices in Australia or operating in partnership with Australian consultants.

Australia's immense potential for economic development clearly calls for capital, knowhow and technology far exceeding her domestic resources and the present Australian Government's policy would seem to allow plenty of scope for British initiative and enterprise in meeting this demand.

Commuters and tourists can now hover across Sydney harbour, at 35 knots. An HM2 mark III hovercraft, built by Hovermarine Transport Ltd., Southampton, went into service in Sydney harbour just before Christmas. The craft can carry 60 passengers. All but four of the 19 already sold have been exported – four to Portugal (including the craft in the picture), two to Greece, and one each to Italy, Brazil, Singapore, the United States, Indonesia, India, Belgium, Norway, and Australia. Two are in service on the River Thames, and another, owned by the DTI, has been on extensive evaluation tests at home and abroad.

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Exhibitions and Fairs

A giftware display by Design Council at Frankfurt event

British motorcycle makers confident in California

From Barrie S. Jones, Vice-Consul (Commercial), British Consulate-General, Los Angeles: The largest contingent of British companies ever to exhibit together at a West Coast motorcycle trade show gathered in Anaheim, California, for the annual Motorcycle and Accessory Trade Show, 16-18 January, at the Convention Centre. This British group of 10 companies participated in a joint venture sponsored by the Cycle and Motorcycle Association and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Following a year of legislative pressures and steady but unspectacular growth, the local motorcycle industry was in a buoyant mood for this show, with the consensus being 'It's an ill energy crisis that blows no one any good'. Consumer interest in the motorcycle as a means of transport (rather than as a recreational and sporting toy) is on the increase in the USA, with an even more striking demand for accessories. Dealers from all over the Western States flocked to Anaheim and a record 10,000 persons (which included 30 per cent more dealers than in 1973) visited the event.

The latest trend to find its way to the West Coast of the United States from the boulevard of Europe is the 'Café Racer' – the term applied to a street motorcycle that has been customised by the addition of certain basic bolt-on accessories to give the exterior appearance of a fully fledged road racing motorcycle.

With admirable timing, three of the leading British manufacturers of café racing accessories – the Paul Dunstall Organisation, Rickman Brothers (Engineering) Ltd. and Read Titan – exhibited their colourful range of fibreglass farings, fuel tanks and accessories, both in individual form and on fully-equipped café racers. All three companies were kept extremely busy during the show and Alec Tye, export manager of Read Titan, reported that over 270 dealers had signed his visitors book during the show. Paul Dunstall and Derek Rickman also experienced an extremely high level of interest in their respective companies' quality café racing accessory lines.

A very wide spectrum of the British motorcycle industry was represented in this joint venture group. There were the well known and highly regarded street motorcycles of Norton Triumph Ltd. (exhibiting for the first time in the US, under their combined colours); the off road machines of the Rickman Brothers; the latest innovations in components from Amal Carburettors and Joseph Lucas; and the recently developed advanced cylinder head 350 twin motorcycle engine that Piper Ltd. was displaying for the first time in California.

The motorcycle rider was also well catered for, with a wide range of fashionable yet practical clothing from TT Leathers and Jeltex-Johnson. Last, but by no means least, the experienced Serge Binn, managing director of Mobyke Accessories, was kept extremely busy during the whole show renewing old acquaintances and taking new orders.

All the exhibitors, including Mrs. L. Simmonds of the Motorcycle Association, considered that this had been a highly successful show which provided a foretaste of the promise that 1974 offers those British manufacturers able to meet the demands of a now well established and expanding US motorcycle market.

October in Portugal – forestry products fair

International Forestry Products, Wood and Furniture Industries Exhibition, organised by Associaçao Industrial Portuense, will be held in Oporto, 18–27 October.

The Portuguese Government Trade Office in London, from which further details are available, states that the exhibition will have these sectors: wood and cork, furniture, paper, sylviculture, machinery and accessories.

The Design Council has selected nine British firms making giftware of a high standard of design to form a special exhibition on a separate stand at the Frankfurt International Trade Fair (Spring), under the title 'Great Things from Britain'.

The Design Council stand brings together seven firms which have exhibited previously with it and two newcomers.

One of these newcomers, Crayonne Ltd., will be showing two ranges at Frankfurt. The newest is the 'Input' range of cylindrical containers for many household purposes, made of strong shatter-proof plastics and available in four different colours. Crayonne is also showing its range of bathroom fittings, modular shelves, bathrack and hooks, all of which have functional and uncluttered lines. By contrast, the stationery, wrapping paper and greetings cards to be exhibited by Elgin Court Designs Ltd. are intricately patterned.

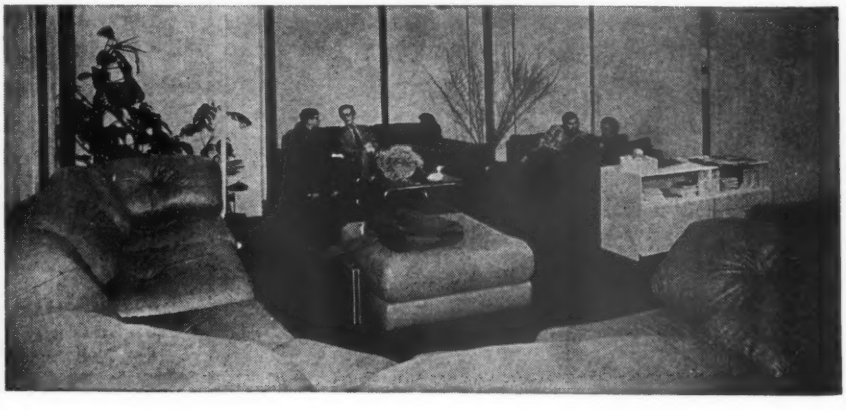
The versatility of plastics as a material is demonstrated by message or notice boards by Desmar Designs Ltd. and by the variety of products, games, containers, light fittings and picture framing kits exhibited by Design Objectives Ltd.

Acrylic is the main material used by Ferguson Formdesign Ltd. to produce gramophone record and magazine racks, square sided vases in three sizes and colours, and effects boxes to hold the inevitable miscellany of small items which everyone collects. The desk and table accessory system by Artifact Designs Ltd. is also designed to keep tidy yet accessible all the small and essential accessories that an executive could need. Adult toys and playthings in chrome and steel will be exhibited by Loncraine and Broxton Ltd.

The G. D. Clark Design Co. will be introducing at this event two new quartz crystal clocks. Dark and earthy colours are used to great effect in the oven-to-table ware and the tableware made by Henry Watson's Potteries.

At the International Trade Fair (Spring) in Frankfurt, the British Overseas Trade Board is supporting exporting companies in ventures sponsored by trade associations.

One of six displays planned by the Design Council at Cologne's International Furniture Fair which ended last week. A total of some 50 British firms took part in the event, 22-27 January. Their participation was sponsored by the British Furniture Manufacturers Federation and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board.



Derek Dodson, British Ambassador to Brazil, and G. E. Hall, Consul-General in Sao Paulo (right and left, respectively), on the stand of Bentley Engineering Group, at last month's Textile Machinery and Equipment Exhibition.

Medicine 74: just what the doctor ordered

From G. D. B. Gronroos, Commercial Dept., British Embassy, Helsinki: Coinciding with the Annual Finnish Medical Conference, Medicine 74 took place, 6–11 January, at Dipoli just outside Helsinki. The exhibition comprised displays of pharmaceuticals and medicines and medical equipment and surgical supplies. The Minister for Health and Social Affairs, Mrs. Seija Karkinen, again attended the opening.

About 100 exhibitors took part: these were mainly Finnish manufacturers or agents but, particularly on the pharmaceutical side, a number of local subsidiaries of international companies participated. The products of over 30 British companies were shown at the exhibition.

The only national stand was that co-ordinated by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Association of British Pharmaceuticals Industry. It occupied a prominent site and the stand included these six British pharmaceutical companies: The Boots Co. Ltd., Glaxo Holdings Ltd., Searle Laboratories, Smith Kline and French Laboratories Ltd., E. R. Squibb and Sons Ltd. and Wellcome.

The representatives at these stands were pleased at the level of inquiries they received and for the opportunity the exhibition presented for them to show their products, particularly new lines, to the Finnish medical profession.

In previous years there has been a rough balance between equipment and pharmaceutical displays. The balance this year was undoubtedly on the pharmaceutical side as a number of leading medical equipment agents did not participate. Attendance figures are not yet available but it is estimated that about 40 per cent of Finland's 5,000 doctors attended the conference as well as students, pharmacists, hospital administrators.

Sao Paulo shows growing interest in textile plant

From W. J. Hall, Commercial Consul, Sao Paulo: The growing interest of machinery manufacturers in the market was clearly shown at this year's Textile Machinery and Equipment Exhibition by the fact that it occupied no less than 60 per cent of the 58,000 sq. m of ground area at Parque Anhembi – the new Sao Paulo exhibition centre at which the British Industrial Exhibition will be held in August.

The rest of the hall contained fabric and clothing manufacturers whose rapid export growth continues to stimulate the market for equipment.

The machinery section included manufacturers from Brazil, Britain, West Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, USA and Japan whose range extended from industrial sewing machines to mercerisers and electronic control equipment. A number of foreign exhibitors also showed products manufactured by their Brazilian subsidiaries. Banks and financial institutions were present too.

British participation was sponsored by the British Textile Machinery Association, supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, and comprised 15 firms. The major exhibits were single and double knit circular knitting machines, transfer printing machinery and paper, texturising and carpet making machinery and electronic pattern designing and control equipment.

The total number of visitors during the nine days, 5–13 January, exceeded 80,000 and exhibitors reported that most were potential customers, rather than the general public whom the organisers had made strenuous efforts to exclude. There was a good attendance of visitors from other Latin American countries, primarily Venezuela and the Argentine.

Despite initial problems in clearing the exhibition material through to the hall – due in part to freight delays – British participants considered the exhibition well worthwhile and most expected their companies to become still more involved in the Brazilian market.

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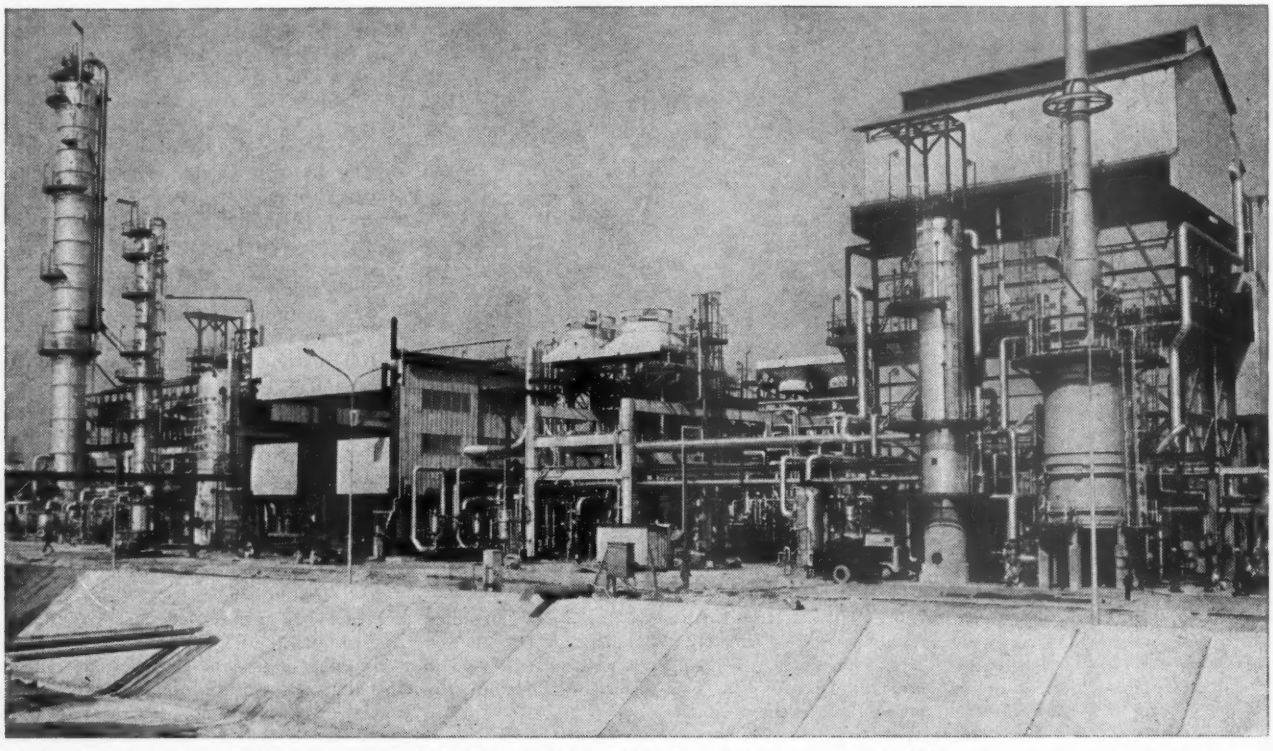

Methanol plant designed by Davy Powergas Ltd. for Ugine Kuhlmann, Viller St. Paul, France, using the ICI low pressure process. Since ICI introduced the process a few years ago, it has been selected by producers throughout the world for a very high proportion of new installations. Davy Powergas has been involved in about half these projects. The plant illustrated has a capacity of 600 tons a day, the same size as a plant under construction in Spain. Davy Powergas recently won a contract for a 1,000-tons-a-day plant in Korea: total value of this project, including site clearance, is £14 million.

Seminar to pinpoint prospects in Europe for British gas appliance manufacturers

A seminar is being organised to focus attention on the future prospects in Europe for British domestic gas appliances. It will take place on the morning of Tuesday, 26 February, at the Carlton Tower, Cadogan Place, London SW1, and is being organised jointly by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Society of British Gas Industries, with the support of the British Gas Corporation.

Experts from France, Germany and Britain will speak and later take part in discussions.

The seminar will concentrate on ways in which BOTB can assist British firms to gain advantage from the encouraging medium and long term prospects offered by the European market.

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New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and Directives which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

General. Regulation (EEC) 3537/73 on the use to be made of inward processing arrangements in trade in agricultural products between Member States of the Community as originally constituted and the new Member States and between the new Member States themselves. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Processed fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 3549/73 fixing the difference in the prices of white sugar to be used for calculating the levy for products processed from fruit and vegetables. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 3551/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 364/73 adopting special measures for new Member States for white sugar used in the chemical industry. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L17, 22 January 1974 contains the text of a corrigendum to Regulation (EEC) 225/72 (published in *Official Journal* L28, February 1972 and the *Official Journal*, special edition 1972(1)) supplementing Regulation (EEC) 206/68 laying down outline provisions for contracts and inter-trade agreements on the purchase of beet.

Wines. Regulation (EEC) 3576/73 on the extension and modification of the arrangements made by Regulation (EEC) 1253/73 on imports of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry', originating in and coming from Cyprus, and the introduction of subsidies for similar wine products produced in the Community as originally constituted and exported to Ireland and the UK. (*Official Journal* L359, 28 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3548/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 2805/73 determining a list of white quality wines produced in specified regions and of imported white quality wines containing a certain percentage of sulphur dioxide and laying down certain transitional provisions relating to the percentage of sulphur dioxide in wines produced before 1 October 1973. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Live plants and products of the flower growing industry. Directive 74/13/EEC amending Annex 3 to Directive 71/161/EEC on external quality standards for forest reproductive material. (*Official Journal* L15, 18 January 1974)

Seeds. Directive 73/438/EEC amending the Directives of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of beet seed (66/400/EEC), fodder plant seed (66/401/EEC), cereal seed (66/402/EEC), and seed potatoes (66/403/EEC); the Directive of 30 June 1969 on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants (69/208/EEC); and the Directives of 29 September 1970 on the marketing of vegetable seed (70/458/EEC) and on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species (70/457/EEC). (*Official Journal* L356, 27 December 1973)

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 175/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 1897/73 fixing the denaturing premium for common wheat for the 1973/74 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L20, 24 January 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 3556/73 derogating from Regulation (EEC) 1403/69 as regards the standard method of denaturing common wheat in Denmark. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 162/74 defining the conditions for the admission of certain kinds of frozen beef and veal to subheading 02.01 A II a) 2 dd) 22 bbb) of the Common Customs Tariff. (*Official Journal* L19, 23 January 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 3545/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 320/73 as regards the list of representative markets for adult bovine animals. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 3538/73 on the use to be made of inward processing arrangements in trade in goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69 between Member States of the Community as originally constituted and the new Member States and between the new Member States themselves. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3539/73 on the rate of import charges collected on small non-commercial consignments of agricultural products and goods coming under Regulation (EEC) 1059/69. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 3547/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 2500/73 on the advance fixing of refunds and the period of validity of export certificates for milk and milk products. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3557/73 concerning provisional derogation from certain conditions for granting aid for skimmed milk and skimmed-milk powder for use as feed. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 3559/73 laying down detailed rules for granting financial compensation and indemnities, fixing the withdrawal prices and determining the buying in price for certain fishery products. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3560/73 fixing reference prices for fishery products for 1974. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3561/73 amending Regulation (EEC) 1109/71 on detailed rules for determining the entry price for certain fishery products. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3562/73 fixing for the 1974 fishing year withdrawal prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A) and (C) to Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 and for certain products landed in areas very distant from the main areas of consumption in the Community. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

UNCTAD GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES: The texts of the following Regulations setting up tariff quotas or preferences for 1974 within the framework of the UNCTAD Generalised System of Preferences have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as set out below.

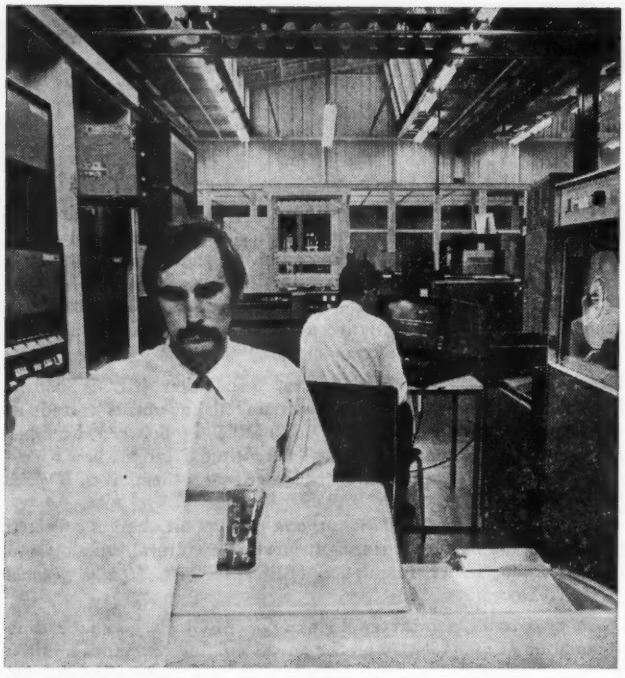
Regulation (EEC) 3577/73 on the opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia. (*Official Journal* L359, 28 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3578/73 opening tariff preferences for certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia. (*Official Journal* L359, 28 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 166/74 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for unmanufactured tobacco of the type 'flue-cured Virginia' originating in developing countries. (*Official Journal* L20, 24 January 1974)

Further information: Department of Trade and Industry, Branch 2, Tariff Division, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ (imports into the UK); Export Data Branch, Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section, Export House, 50 Ludgate

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

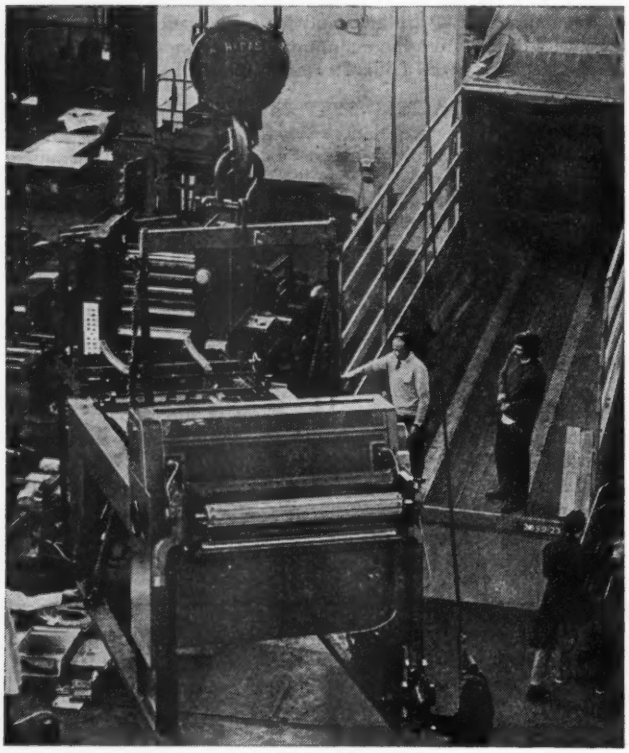


Exports to Europe . . . computer system

Power station contractors Brown Boveri & Cie of Mannheim, West Germany, have completed acceptance tests of a £120,000 computer system at Honeywell's Hemel Hempstead engineering centre. The system, pictured here, will be installed by Brown Boveri as a 'test bed' for developing and checking out computer control systems which will be incorporated into power stations.

. . . paper cutter

A model 1300 sheet cutter on its way to Europe from the Bristol factory of Strachen Henshaw's Printing Press Division. Exports of this model were made to 20 countries last year, with particular success in the Far East. Initial sales of the model 1700 sheeter have been encouraging: recent exports have gone to India, Germany (a difficult market in view of local competition) and Japan.



Hill, London EC4 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/408/482 (imports into the EEC other than the UK).

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF IMPORT DUTIES. The texts of a number of EEC Regulations temporarily, wholly or partially suspending the autonomous duties in the Common Customs Tariff on certain products have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Details of the goods concerned, the reduced rates of duty and the periods during which these will be applied are set out below.

CCT heading No.	Description of goods	Rate of autonomous duty to be applied during the period: Duty	Period
Regulation (EEC) 3465/73:			
08.12 A	Dried apricots	6%	1 December 1973 to 30 June 1974
ex 08.02 A II a) and b)	Bitter or Seville oranges	8%	1 January to 30 June 1974
09.10 C 1	Saffron, neither crushed or ground	10%	1 January to 30 June 1974
Regulation EEC 3466/73:			
ex 29.02 A III	Ethylene dibromide	Total suspension	
ex 29.03 A	Benzene 1,3-disulphonic acid	Total suspension	
ex 29.14 B IV b)	2-Ethyl-2-hydroxymethyl-propanediol triacrylate	Total suspension	
ex 29.16 D	Prostaglandin E_1	Total suspension	
ex 29.23 E	N-[2-(4-(1,2 Diphenylvinyl) phenoxy)ethyl] dicthylam-monium chloride	Total suspension	
ex 29.27	2-(3-Phenoxyphenyl) propioni trile	Total suspension	
ex 29.39 E	Thyrocalcitonin, porcine	Total suspension	
ex 29.44 C	Tylosin base and its salts	Total suspension	
ex 29.44 C	Bleomycin sulphate	Total suspension	
38.07 A	Spirits of turpentine	3%	
ex 39.01 C V	Elastomers of polyurethane with groups of ether in one of the forms mentioned in Note 3 (a) and 3 (b) of Chapter 39	11%	
ex 39.02 C XIV a)	Copolymers of vinylidene chloride and hexafluor-propy-lene in one of the forms mentioned in Note 3 (a) and (b) of Chapter 39	9%	
ex 76.03	Aluminium alloy strip in coils containing not less than 18% by weight and not more than 23% by weight of tin and not less than 0.7% by weight and not more than 1.5% by weight of copper as the major alloying elements and having a width of not less than 75 mm and not more than 230 mm and a thickness of not less than 3 mm and not more than 6.5 mm	Total suspension	1 January to 30 June 1974
ex 81.02 B	Molybdenumalloy sheet containing not less than 98% by weight of molybdenum not less than 0.40% by weight and not more than 1% by weight of titanium and not less than 0.06% by weight and not more than 0.20% by weight of zirconium as the major alloying element	Total suspension	
ex 81.04 D I	Chromium, in the form of cathode chips or pellets, which contains not more than 0.10% by weight of total oxygen, not more than 0.015% by weight of total aluminium, and not more than 0.001% by weight of aluminium compounds insoluble in boiling 5N hydrochloric acid and in boiling fuming perchloric acid, and estimated as A1	Total suspension	
ex 81.04 K I	Waste and scrap of titanium	Total suspension	
Regulation (EEC) 3467/73:			
ex 88.02 B II c)	Mechanically propelled aircraft of an unladen weight exceeding 15.000 kg.	Total suspension	1 January to 31 December 1974

(*Official Journal* L356, 27 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3546/73 authorising the UK to suspend during the period 1 January to 31 December 1974 the customs duties on

imports from other Member States of the EEC of dried asparagus, celery and onions. (CCT No. ex 07.04) (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3555/73 authorising the UK to suspend in part the customs duty applicable to hothouse table grapes falling within subheading 08.04 AI of the Common Customs Tariff imported from other Member States. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3558/73 authorising the UK to suspend totally during the period 1 January to 31 December 1974 the customs duties on imports from the other Member States of the EEC of mackerel and horse mackerel, dead, unfit for human consumption, of subheading No. ex 05.15 A II of the Common Customs Tariff. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Further information: Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Branch, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 408/482/7174 (duties, taxes, etc., on imports into the EEC other than the UK); Tariff Division, Kingsgate House, 66–74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-222 7877 ext. 5519 (imports into the UK).

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS. Regulation (EEC) 3456/73 amending Article 5 of Regulation 1496/68 on the definition of the customs territory of the Community, by the substitution of 30 June 1977 for 31 December 1973. (Article 5 was added to Regulation 1496/68 by Regulation 2744/72) (*Official Journal* L356, 27 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3550/73 amending Article 2 of Regulation 844/73 on air transport costs to be included in the value for customs purposes by the substitution of 1 July 1977 for 1 January 1974. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Regulation (EEC) 3564/73 amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) 2198/69 concerning the periods of grace referred to in Article 10 (2) and (3) of Regulation (EEC) 803/68 on the valuation of goods for customs purposes. (*Official Journal* L361, 29 December 1973)

Further information: HM Customs and Excise, Kings Beam House, 39–41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE (tel. 01-626 1515).

ECSC AGREEMENTS WITH ICELAND, SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA, PORTUGAL AND SWEDEN: TEXTS PUBLISHED. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L350, 19 December 1973 contains the texts of the following agreements which came into force on 1 January 1974.

ECSC/Iceland. Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Republic of Iceland.

ECSC/Switzerland. Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Swiss Confederation.

Additional Agreement concerning the validity, for the Principality of Liechtenstein, of the Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Swiss Confederation of 22 July 1972.

ECSC/Austria. Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Austria, of the other part.

ECSC/Portugal. Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Portuguese Republic, of the other part.

ECSC/Sweden. Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Sweden, of the other part.

EEC/NORWAY AGREEMENT: *Trade and Industry*, 26 July 1973 contained a notice about the publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L171, 27 June 1973 of the text of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway which came into force on 1 July 1973, and a number of implementing Regulations.

The *Official Journal* L357, 28 December 1973 contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3476/73 approving the exchange of letters rectifying Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement. Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 concerns customs duties on imports into Ireland and the original Member States of the EEC of goods originating in Norway falling within headings 76.01A, 76.02 and 76.03 of the Common Customs Tariff.

Further information: Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 (ext. 466/467/288 import duties and taxes on imports into the Irish Republic; ext. 408/482/7174 import duties, taxes, etc. on imports into the original Member States)).

. . . casting cores

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EEC/MAURITIUS ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L356, 27 December 1973, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 3468/73 amending Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) 2798/73 concluding the Association Agreement with Mauritius

RIGHTS OF ESTABLISHMENT AND FREEDOM TO SUPPLY SERVICES: CORRIGENDUM: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L17, 22 January 1974 contains the text of a corrigendum to Directive 73/183/EEC on the abolition of restrictions on freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services in respect of self-employed activities of banks and other financial institutions (published in *Official Journal* L194, 16 July 1973).

Trade Information

Export control and import licensing of potatoes

In a Written Reply in the House of Commons on 29 January, to a question about potato supplies, Mr. Anthony Stodart, Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, announced that the Government has decided to prohibit the export of ware potatoes from midnight on 20 February and to suspend the normal ban on the import of maincrop potatoes from the same date.

The present intention is that these measures, which form part of the standing arrangements for the organisation of the market, should continue in force until 31 May 1974.

Exports

Export licences will not be issued for the export of ware potatoes (including sub-standard ware), except for essential shipments for consumption in Gibraltar or by British forces abroad. The decision not to issue licences for the export of ware potatoes after 20 February will be strictly observed, and the fact that notification of export intentions has been made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (whether in respect of firm contracts or otherwise) will not be regarded as constituting grounds for the issue of a licence in respect of the quantities so notified.

Licences for the export of seed potatoes will be issued on condition that the relevant plant health certificates are produced to HM Customs and Excise.

Copies of the Order giving effect to the change in the export licensing control, the Export of Goods (Control) (Amendment No. 2) Order 1974, will be available shortly from HM Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB, and Branches, or by post from HM Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Inquiries about export licensing and applications for export licences should be addressed to Export Licensing Branch, Department of Trade and Industry, Sanctuary Buildings, 16–20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB (tel: 01-222 7877, ext. 4252/4231).

Imports

The Department of Trade and Industry is prepared now to consider applications for licences for the import of specific consignments of maincrop potatoes.

Licences will be valid only for imports of potatoes, other than new or seed potatoes, originating in and consigned from any source subject to compliance with the plant health regulations, as described in the following paragraph. New potatoes may be imported, except during September and October, from any source outside the Eastern Area under Open General Import Licence; there are separate arrangements for imports of seed potatoes.

All potato imports are subject to the requirements of Orders made by the agricultural Departments under the Plant Health Act 1967. Under these Orders, maincrop potatoes may be imported into Great Britain only from the following countries, or parts of countries:

- Algeria
- Arab Republic of Egypt
- Cyprus
- France (including Corsica)
- Germany (FDR)
  - Provinces of Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony north of the 'Mitteland Canal'
- Greece
- Israel
- Italy (including Sardinia and Sicily)
- Irish Republic
- Kenya
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- Portugal (including the Azores and Madeira)
- Republic of South Africa
- Spain (including the Balearic Islands and Canary Islands)
- Switzerland
- Tunisia

Northern Ireland Plant Health Regulations provide that no maincrop potatoes may be imported into Northern Ireland

Smiles in St. Moritz from Chancellor of the Exchequer Anthony Barber and Secretary of State for Trade and Industry Peter Walker, as a point is made by the Shah of Iran. With the Shah is Iranian Minister of Finance Jamshid Amuzegar. Mr Walker and Iranian Minister of Economy Hushang Ansary reached agreement on a broad front along the Shah's guidelines for a closer economic relationship between the two countries. Under one agreement, during 1974 and early 1975 Britain will export a range of products worth £110 million in return for 5 million tons of oil.

unless a plant health licence has been granted by the Department of Agriculture there in addition to an import licence issued by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Inquiries about import licensing and applications for import licences should be addressed to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade and Industry, Sanctuary Buildings, 16–20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB (tel: 01-222 7877, ext. 5688).

Export of lubricating oils, etc.

Since 12 November 1973, Open Individual Licences have been issued to firms wishing to export petroleum oils and products in individual consignments of up to 100 tonnes or lubricating oils.

In order to reduce the work involved in applying for and granting such licences, it has been decided, with effect on and from 1 February 1974, to issue an Open General Licence to permit the export of such goods. The text of the Open General Licence is as follows:

Export licence – lubricating oils, etc.
Open General Export Licence dated 31 January 1974 granted by the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of powers conferred by Article 5 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1970[a] as amended in particular by the Export of Goods (Control) (Amendment No. 4) Order 1973[b] and now vested in him[c], hereby grants an Open General Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom, other than to a destination in Southern Rhodesia, of lubricating oils falling within the description of petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals and of any individual consignment of petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals of less than 100 tonnes, referred to in Group 5 of Schedule 1 to the said Order as amended.

This Instrument shall come into operation on 1 February 1974.

B. M. Eyles
An Assistant Secretary
31 January 1974 Department of Trade and Industry

(a) SI 1970/1288 (1970 III, p. 4270)
(b) SI 1973/1779
(c) SI 1970/1537 (1970 III, p. 5293)

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade and Industry is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Kingsgate House, 66–74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by 21 February.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
73.12	Hoop and strip of iron or steel, zinc coated	Galvanised steel	31 December 1974	14707
73.13	Sheets and plates of iron or steel, zinc coated	Galvanised steel	31 December 1974	14707

India orders £7m carrier from Scotland: ECGD guarantee

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a loan of £5.6 million which the Bank of Scotland is providing to help finance the purchase of a 32,000 tdw products carrier by the Great Eastern Shipping Co. Ltd. of India.

Scotts Shipbuilding Company Ltd. will build the £7 million carrier at its Cartsburn Shipyard in Greenock, Renfrewshire. The vessel is scheduled for delivery in April 1975 and repayment of the loan will be over eight years from delivery.

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on the German Democratic Republic, Liberia, South Africa including S. W. Africa, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, and Tanzania, have been published in the 'Hints to business men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Room DO5, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146) or to any Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Carnations and cut glass add a homely, if, to a British businessman, a somewhat unusual, touch to the signing of a contract of not inconsiderable proportions. Mr. W. Wacinsky (left), director of Agromet, a division of the Polish Ministry of Machine Industry, signs the £10.4 million contract for GKN Contractors Ltd. to build and equip a forging plant for agricultural implements. Signing for GKN Contractors is Mr. G. L. Fryer, managing director. A separate financial agreement negotiated by Morgan Grenfell (Overseas) Ltd. covering the credit for the sale was the largest single piece of business negotiated between a British bank and the Bank Handlowy of Warsaw.

Tariff and Trade Notices

France

Exchange control regulations
Exchange control measures adopted after the decision to float the franc on 19 January are as follows:

Franc loans to non-residents are prohibited from 20 January 1974 without special authorisation.

Proceeds of transactions by residents with non-residents must be banked or sold on the foreign exchange market as appropriate within one month of the settlement date.

Payment for exports must be received on the date provided for in the contract. This date may not be later than 180 days from the date of landing of the goods (applicable to contracts signed after 20 January).

Residents are free to sell currency forward. Forward currency sales contracts may not be cancelled by forward purchases but may be cancelled by spot purchases. Forward currency purchases for the import of goods are limited to three months except those covering a list of specified products (mainly agricultural and raw materials, including energy resources) where the period may be extended to six or twelve months.

In order to facilitate capital inflows authority is no longer required for foreign loans between two and ten million Francs.

Copies of the full text of the regulations published in the French *Journal Officiel*, 20 January 1974 can be sent on request or seen at Export House. **EDB ext. 423/408/482**

Preserved or semi-preserved food products: import regulations
The French *Journal Officiel*, 13 January 1974, published two arrêtés setting out the regulations governing the marking of preserved, or semi-preserved, and quick frozen food products for the year 1974.

For semi-preserved products the date should include the letter 'P' (the code letter for goods manufactured in the year 1974) followed by a number between 1 and 365 showing the day of manufacture during 1974 of the goods in question.

For quick-frozen foods the regulations of decree No. 949 of 9 September 1964 still apply, ie the outer wrapping or container must bear the date on which they were quick-frozen. This date must be in indelible ink and can be in conventional code, but all symbols should be marked without spacing and start with the year of processing. The Service de la Repression des Fraudes must be advised if code dates are used.

For both preserved and quick frozen foods the code letter will be 'R' for 1974 followed by a number between 1 and 365 showing the day of manufacture. Manufacturers and importers may apply in writing to the Service de la Repression des Fraudes et du Controle de la Qualité, 42 bis rue de Bourgogne, 75007 Paris, for the regulations governing the labelling of these products.

Copies of the French notices can be sent on request or seen at Export House. **EDB ext. 423/408/482**

Value-added tax: animals of the equine species
The French *Journal Officiel*, 20 January 1974, published an arrêté setting out for 1974 the following fixed basis for calculation of value-added tax on imports and sales of live animals of the equine species liable to this tax:

2,200 francs per animal imported or sold within the first year of birth

3,100 francs per animal imported or sold within the second year of birth

4,400 francs for the importation or sale of any other animal of the equine species. **EDB ext. 423/408/482**

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available from the Department of Trade and Industry. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, DTI, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB), DTI, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Spain

Potatoes: home compensation tax
The Spanish *State Gazette*, 25 January 1974, announced the reduction to 1.5 per cent of home compensation tax levy until 24 April 1974 on ware potatoes, tariff heading 07.01.A.2. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Import duty suspension extension: correction
Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 17 January (page 90) of extension until 16 March 1974 of import duty suspension on a list of foodstuffs. Tariff heading 01.04.A.2 should have read 'live sheep'. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Capital goods – additions and extensions: correction
In *Trade and Industry*, 31 January 1974, page 183, notice was given of the addition to the capital goods list of tariff heading 84.45.C.16 (numerically-controlled machining centres). The validity date should have read 12 December 1974. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

Portugal

Motor vehicles: revised system of import duties and taxes
Portuguese *Diario do Governo*, First Series, No. 299, of 27 December 1973, published Decree Law 697/73 revising from 1 January 1974 the system of import duties and taxes for vehicles falling under BN headings 87.01 (except agricultural tractors), 87.02 (except air cushion vehicles and light tippers), 87.03 and 87.04.

Customs duties have hitherto comprised a fiscal and a protective element. The decree law abolishes the fiscal element together with the Export Development Fund tax on light passenger vehicles and turnover tax on other vehicles, replacing these by a single internal sales tax on all vehicles whether imported complete or assembled in Portugal.

The effect of the change is to eliminate all import duty on vehicles under the above headings except those imported under 87.02.09 (light passenger vehicles) when originating in EFTA, the UK or Denmark. Those from other sources will be subject to protective duty, although in the case of products originating in the EEC this will be removed by 1 July 1975. Goods falling within BN 87.02.09 will be subject to duty reductions in accordance with the timetables set out in Protocol 1, Article 4, List A of the EEC/Portuguese Free Trade Agreement when originating in the enlarged EEC, and Annex G paragraph 4 of the EFTA Convention when of EFTA origin.

Further details including the rates of duty and taxation are available. **EDB ext. 460/461**

Iron and steel: duty temporarily suspended on certain products
Due to the temporary closure this year of the blast furnace at

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Siderurgia Nacional Steelworks and the fact that the Seixal works has no hot-rolling capacity, the Portuguese Ministry of Economy has, from 1 January 1974, temporarily suspended import duty on hot-rolled long and flat iron and steel products, originating in the enlarged EEC and EFTA and falling within the range normally manufactured by Siderurgia Nacional. No further information is available. **EDB ext. 460/461**

Norway

Buses and motor cycles: vehicle tax changes
Norway made the following changes in vehicle tax on 16 November 1973.

Buses with fixed seats for 10 or more persons (including the driver) and chassis with engines for these buses will be exempt from vehicle tax.

For motor cycles with engines of a cylinder capacity of more than 50 cubic centimetres, vehicle tax will be levied at the rate of 67 per cent on the first N.Kr. 5,000 of the duty-paid value and at 100 per cent on that part of the duty-paid value which exceeds N.Kr. 5,000. **EDB ext. 458/49**

Israel

Import deposit scheme cancelled
Israel cancelled on 27 December 1973 the import deposit scheme introduced in January 1970. The scheme started with a 50 per cent deposit, which was reduced by 10 per cent each year. The final 10 per cent for 1974 does not now apply. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Jordan

Animal feed, milk powder, fertilisers: price control lifted
The Jordanian authorities on 18 November 1973 floated until further notice the prices of animal feed, milk powder and chemical fertilisers which had been subject to official price controls. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Libya

Paint ingredients: standard specifications
Copies are available of the text of Libyan ministerial decrees 274, 275, 276 and 277 approving the standard specifications for zinc oxide for paints, titanium dioxide for paints, ultramarine pigments and safety colours. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Tanzania

Quotation of prices by Tanzanian exporters
The National Bank of Tanzania has advised Tanzanian exporters to quote prices in Deutschmarks, US dollars or Tanzanian shillings, in view of the weak position of sterling. **CRE ext. 5226**

South Africa

Windscreen wiper motors: tariff application
Customs Tariff Application List 617, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 1 February 1974, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on electrical windscreen wiper motors.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Division 4, DTI. **CRE ext. 5274**

Soft drinks: new regulations
South African *Government Gazette* No. 4141 of 18 January (Notice R.70), carries details of the new regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act 1972 concerning soft drinks. **EDB ext. 471/472/473/462**

Mauritius

Duty changes
The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act No. 59 of 1973 published in the Mauritius *Government Gazette*, 24 December 1973, amends the rates of fiscal and customs duty in Parts I and II of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act No. 59 of 1969. These amendments are too long to be reproduced here in full, but the items affected are contained in the following chapters:

First Schedule
Part I – Import duties: Chapters 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 15, 16, 19, 22, 49, 70, 71, 84, 85, 87.

Part II – Unclassified exemptions from import duty: Items A4 and A5. **EDB ext. 471/472/473/462**

Import levy
The Customs Tariff (Special Levy) Act No. 60 of 1973 published in the Mauritius *Government Gazette*, 24 December 1973, introduces, from 4 December, a special levy on certain imports. The additional duty, which applies to the following goods, is a percentage of the ordinary duty:

1 All goods specified in chapters 50 to 57 of Part I of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act — 10 per cent

2 All other goods specified in Part I of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act except those specified in chapters 1 to 21, 23, 25 to 32, 37 to 39, 41 and 97 — 20 per cent

EDB ext. 471/472/473/462

Singapore

Petroleum products: duty changes
The Singapore Government Gazette has published the Customs Duties (Amendment No. 9) Order 1973 which amends the Schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1971 by deleting Code 332 101 and substituting the following:

Code	Description	Unit of quantity	Customs duty Full	Pref.	Excise
	Motor spirit, refined, including spirit obtained from natural gas and whether or not containing traces of anti-knock products and anti-oxidants:				
332 101-1	Premium (98 octane or thereabouts)	Tonne	$ per dl 3.36	$ per dl 3.36	$ per dl 3.36
332 101-2	Regular (85 octane or thereabouts)	Tonne	$ per dl 3.21	$ per dl 3.21	$ per dl 3.21

The schedule lists goods on which duties are leviable when imported into Singapore. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

Thailand

Poisonous Article Act
Under a royal proclamation the Thai Government has issued the Poisonous Article Act (No 2) BE 2516 (1973) which substantially amends the Poisonous Article Act BE 2510 (1967). An English version of both acts is available for loan to UK exporters. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

Korea

Flexible tariff system
The Korean Ministry of Finance has announced the introduction from 1 January 1974 of a flexible tariff system. It enables the Government to vary an import duty upwards or downwards by as much as 50 per cent from the basic rate. The following BN headings are included:

10.01, 15.01, 15.02, 15.04, 15.07, 15.10, 17.03, 27.09, 27.10, 44.03, 47.01, 55.01, 73.03

Details of the new duty rates are available. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Japan

Motor vehicle exhaust control

Further exhaust emission control regulations are due to be put into effect by the Japanese Ministry of Transport on 1 April 1975. A draft of the proposed emission standard translated and distributed by the Japan Automobile Importers Association is available on loan to British exporters. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Saccharin: permitted use in foodstuffs

An unofficial translation of the Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare notification on the permitted use of saccharin and saccharin sodium in a wide range of foodstuffs is available on request.

EDB ext. 420/475

New Zealand

Continuous filament polyester yarn: customs tariff inquiry

In a letter of 6 September 1972 the New Zealand Minister of Customs informed the Tariff and Development Board that Government had accepted the Board's recommendations in its Report No. 189 and the tariff provisions set out in the Schedule to this notice became effective on 8 September 1972. The Board had also recommended that a further inquiry be undertaken in 1974 and the Minister agreed, in view of the Board's comments regarding the current world market and marketing conditions, that a further inquiry should be held at that time. Accordingly, the Minister requested the Board to undertake in 1974 an inquiry and report as to the nature and extent of the protection, if any, it considers necessary for the New Zealand industry manufacturing continuous filament polyester yarn not bulked, stretch or texturised classified in tariff items 51.01.033, 51.01.035, 51.01.036 and 51.01.038, the tariff provisions for which are set out in the Schedule to this notice.

For the purpose of taking evidence the Board will hold a public hearing in the Hearing Room, Eighth Floor, Cumberland House, Upper Willis Street, Wellington, on Tuesday, 9 July 1974, commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Parties intending to make representations or requests about appropriate rates of customs duty are asked to take into account the statement of 7 May 1973 by the Minister of Overseas Trade on the phasing out of British preferences from the New Zealand Tariff, the statement of 7 May 1973 by the Minister of Trade and Industry on the interim New Zealand-Australia Trade Agreement 1973 and the statement of 27 July 1973 by the Minister of Overseas Trade on the New Zealand-Canada Trade Agreement 1973. Copies of these statements can be obtained from the undersigned. In a letter dated 6 April 1973 the Minister of Trade and Industry indicated that, while Government had asked the Board to consider the question of a single tariff rate, for trade policy reasons the Board's recommendations on this aspect would not necessarily be made public for the time being.

Any person who intends to tender evidence should lodge, in typewritten form, 14 copies of public evidence and 12 copies of confidential evidence, to be presented under oath at the public hearing, with Mr. F. E. Beaufort, Secretary, Tariff and Development Board, PO Box 27046, Wellington, New Zealand, not later than 10 June 1974. 'Notes for the Guidance of Witnesses', which indicate the kind of information required and the manner in which it should be submitted to the Tariff and Development Board, can be seen at the Department of Trade and Industry, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4 M7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469). Each statement of evidence will in general need to be presented under oath at the public inquiry by the person tendering it.

Any changes made are likely to remain in force for a considerable period; any exporters whose trade is likely to be affected are urged to consider seriously the desirability of submitting evidence at the forthcoming inquiry.

In any instance where no evidence is received in respect of any goods classified within a particular tariff item the Board may recommend that no protective rates of duty be applied to those goods.

Firms proposing to give independent evidence through their agents in New Zealand or through the Director of the British Trade Association of New Zealand Inc. PO Box 11-363, Wellington, New Zealand (telegraphic address 'Transtrade', tel. Wellington 43-706) and requiring further information should approach the Commercial Relations and Exports Division. The BTANZ charges a fee for its

Two of a set of three postage stamps by which Fiji commemorated the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand. An 8c stamp depicted boxing. The set was printed in Britain by Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd.

One of the largest consignments of British cars for New Zealand, and the largest to be shipped from Felixtowe, awaits loading on a drive-on drive-off vessel. The 2,350 vehicles, including Ford Escorts and Capris, Chrysler Avengers and Hillman Hunters, and BLMC models, were destined for the ports of Auckland, Wellington and Lyttelton.

services, the amount varying according to the work entailed and whether the trade association or firm is a member. Ref. CRE 52/74.

SCHEDULE

Number	Description	Rates of duty BP	MFN	GEN
51.01	Yarn of man-made fibres (continuous), not put up for retail sale:			
	Of synthetic fibres:			
	Other yarn and thread:			
	Other kinds:			
	Not containing sheep's or lamb's wool or fine animal hair:			
	Other:			
	Polyester:			
	Not bulked, stretch, or texturised:			
	Weighing not less than 110 g but not more than 160 g per 9,000 m:			
‡51.01.033	As may be approved by the Minister and under such conditions as he may prescribe	Free	.. DC5%	10%
	Other:			
‡51.01.035	Weighing not less than 110 g but not more than 130 g per 9,000 m	Free*	.. DC5%*	10%*
‡51.01.036	Weighing more than 130 g but not more than 160 g per 9,000 m	Free†	.. DC5%†	10%†
‡51.01.038	Other kinds	Free	.. DC5%	10%

* Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than $1.24 per lb.
† Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than $1.15 per lb.
‡ Effective 8 September 1972.

CRE ext. 5321

Jamaica

Import restrictions and other economic measures
The Jamaican Prime Minister announced on 23 January 1974 new economic measures:

Import licencing has been extended as follows:

A total immediate ban on imports of ducks, turkeys, apples, cider, gin, toys, greeting cards and calendars, handkerchiefs, underwear and nightwear of other materials except cotton, handbags and wallets, and table and other household decorative articles of plastic.

Imports of all textiles to be further restricted. In future merchants will be permitted to import one pound of textiles for every pound of fabric purchased from local and Carifta/Caricom sources.

Motor vehicles. In 1974 imports of motor cars will be limited to a total value of J$5 million. Imported cars will be subject to a value limitation of J$3,000 cif and to a c.c. rating limit of 3,000.

For commercial vehicle imports an amount of J$10 million will be allocated for 1974.

The bulk of imports of consumer items will in future require import licences. Total imports of each item are to be held to a specified level.

A consumption duty of 75 per cent of the present import duty is to be levied on whisky, brandy, wines, liqueurs.

The retail sales tax on motor cars to be increased from 25 per cent to 50 per cent.

Air-conditioners, and electric and gas water heaters will attract a 75 per cent sales tax.

Interest rates. With immediate effect the bank rate will be increased from 7 per cent to 9 per cent. Also with immediate effect, the prime lending rates of banks will be 11 per cent.

Further information will be published as soon as details are received.

EDB ext. 7312/474/476

Dominica

Package tax changes
The tax on packages imported into Dominica from 1 January 1974 is amended as follows:

Goods imported in packages	25c per cubic ft. or part thereof
Goods imported in bags or drums	50c per bag or drum
Loose or unpackaged articles or goods	25c per cubic foot or 25c per cwt whichever is greater.

EDB ext. 7312/474/476

Chile

Exchange rates
The recently announced changes in exchange rates by the Chilean Central Bank were altered again on 18 January 1974. The 'Bank' rate is now 385 Escudos per US Dollar. The other official exchange rates remain unchanged. **CRE ext. 5289**

Colombia

Tariff amendments
Decree 2346/73 issued by the Colombian authorities alters the descriptions and/or duties of certain sub-headings within the following tariff numbers:

08.04	11.01	18.01	29.01	29.02	29.04	29.15	29.31	37.02
39.01	39.02	39.03	39.07	40.06	42.02	47.01	48.21	64.01
75.06	83.13	84.17	84.22	84.24	84.25	85.08	87.01	97.06

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

Peru

Contract deadlines for industrial companies
Decree law 19863 establishes that all foreign industrial entities must sign a contract of transformation with the Peruvian Ministry of Industry by 30 June 1974. Foreign industrial companies established in Peru are to transform themselves into mixed or national companies, and must complete the transfer of their shares in an amount of at least 15 per cent of their capital to private national investors (including the Labour Community) by 30 May 1974.

Registered trade marks

The lists of Tariff, Customs and Import Regulations changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877

EDB Export Data Branch, Export Services Division
Department of Trade and Industry
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757

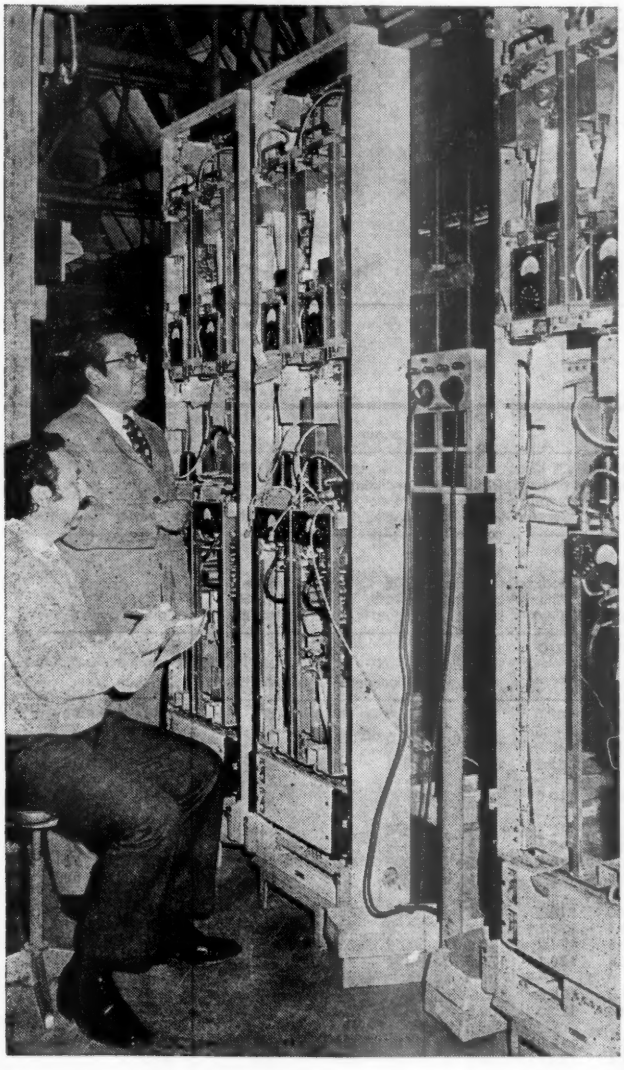
Uruguay

Code of Merchandise: amendments

Decree 811/973 makes the following alterations to the Uruguayan Code of Merchandise:

a The following new headings are added:

Item no.	Description	Surcharge *ad valorem* cif	CIF price US$
32.079	Iron or steel tubes with or without seam of constant circular section, plain or with thread, more than 101.6 mm diameter	10%	
32.080	Iron or steel tubes with or without seam, of constant circular section, of nominal diameter of up to 12.7 mm	10%	
33.028	Aerials and their parts, for radios	60%	



Microwave-radio equipment for Bolivia

Mr. F. W. Bustamante, contracting officer for Empresa Nacional de Telecomunicaciones (ENTEL) of Bolivia, and a Bolivian telecommunications engineer checking microwave-radio equipment prior to dispatch from the Coventry headquarters of GEC Telecommunications Ltd. GEC has a £3.25 million contract with ENTEL to instal a 560-mile broadband microwave-radio telecommunications system in Bolivia. The system will modernize the Bolivian trunk telephone communications network and will provide facilities for TV to be relayed from the capital, La Paz, and allow the transmission of telex and data services. It will also enable international connexions to be made with similar systems in Peru, Argentina, Chile and Brazil.

Item no.	Description	Surcharge *ad valorem* cif	CIF price US$
33.059	Fixed condensers for radios, television, record players and tape recorders, with a capacity greater than 0.5 MFD and a unit weight greater than 50 gm except mica and ceramic condensers	90%	US$ 8.50 kg
37.007	Clamps	90%	
37.008	Oil cans	90%	
37.041	Small lead pellets for air rifles	150%	
40.110	Preparation based on soot or thermoplastic colouring and resins with or without support and/or disperser, for reproducing documents electrostatically (xerograph)	30%	
41.017	Ribbons and bands of discontinued textile material polyamides, less than 3 mm thick, for spindle belts for continuous thread machines and thread twisters	10%	
41.023	Solid tyres of up to 500 mm in diameter and up to 200 mm maximum width	90%	
41.025	Other solid tyres	10%	
41.028	Blocks and filtering plates of paper paste	10%	
41.094	Electric motors with special protection, suitable for working underwater pumps	10%	
41.229	Portable pulverisers and sprayers for back packing, with incorporated motor	10%	
42.949	Wicks of cellulose acetate for making cigarette filters	10%	
45.005	Hypodermic needles for cartridge syringes	10%	
49.120	Caps or covers for radiators except under pressure	90%	
49.121	Caps or covers for oil except with derivations for the entrance of gas	90%	
49.122	Caps or covers for petrol tanks, except with key	90%	

b The following surcharge is altered to the rate shown:

Item no.	Description	Surcharge
43.126	Crepe and crinkly paper	90%

c The following headings are amended as shown:

Item no.	Where it says	It should say
32.069	Steel tubes	Iron or steel tubes
33.060	Variable condensers of maximum capacity of 425 MF and minimum of 15 MF	Variable condensers of maximum capacity of 425 PF and minimum of 15 PF
40.013	Box of compasses and/or components except lead refills	Box of compasses and/or components
42.982	Monofilaments of nylon and/or similar polyamides of 0.15 mm to 0.65 mm in diameter in lengths of up to 1.300 mm	Monofilaments of nylon and/or similar polyamides of 0.15 mm to 1.50 mm in diameter in lengths of up to 1.300 mm
43.169	Laminated papers with plastic film	Papers and paper ribbons laminated with plastic film
45.086	Plaster and components based on plaster	Plaster and components based on plaster except gypsum for impressions, alginics and facings for moulds and strains

d The following CIF prices have been fixed:

35.106	Sheepdips and insecticides	
	a paradichlorobenzene	US$ 450.000 per ton
	b remainder	US$ 2,000.00 per ton
43.069	Zinc oxide	US$ 800.00 per ton

e The following items are deleted from the Code of Merchandise:

32.078	Iron or ordinary steel tubes, with maximum carbon content of 0.24% galvanised or not, with or without seam
36.018	Electrical apparatus and machines for domestic use: c Apparatus for massage
37.294	Clamps for rubber tubes
41.084	Solid tyres for hand trucks of the following measurements: 8½×4×4, 9×5×5, 10×3×6½, 10×5×6½, 10×6×6½, 10×7×6½, 10½×5×6½, 10½×6×6½, 10½×7×6½, 12×3½×8, 12×4×8, 12×4½×8, 14×4×10, 14×5×10, 15×3×11½, 15×3½×11½, 15×4×11½, 15×5×11½, 15×6×11½, 15×7×11½, 15×8×11½, 15×9×11½, 16×3½×12; 16×3½×12½, 16×4×12½, 16×4½×12, 17×5×12½, 17×6×12½, 17×7×12½, 18×5×14, 20×3½×16, 20×4×16, 20×5×16, 20×6×16, 20×7×16, 20×8×16, 20×9×16, 21×5×15, 22×3½×17½, 22×4½×17½, 22×6×17½, 22×8×17½, 22×10×16, 22×10×17½, 22×12×16, 24×3½×20, 22×7×17½, 27½×3½×23½, 27½×4½×23½, 28×7×3½, 24×4×20, 10×4×6½
41.087	Tyres (mono-cushion) for hand trucks of the following measures: ½, ½, 10½×5×15, 10½×6×5, 13×3½×8, 13×4½×8, 14×4½×8, 15½×5×10, 14¾×4×10, 15½×6×10½, 16½×4×11½, 16½×5×11½, 16½×6×11½, 16½×7×11, 17×4½×12½, 17½×5×12, 17½×6×12½, 18×7×12½, 18×8×12½, 21×5×15, 21×6×15, 21×7×15, 21×8×15, 22×4½×16, 22×6×16, 22×7×16, 22×8×16, 22×9×16, 23½×8×17½, 22×12×16
41.162	Mechanical working lathes of up to 2 mts between points and 250 mm overturning radius except semi-automatic and automatic
45.104	Metal hypodermic syringes for dental use
49.003	Aerials and their parts for automotive vehicles

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1971	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9,223	2,129	2,087	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1968	95	97	97	87	87	439	269	85	60	−284	−659	375
1969	97	98	98	93	92	416	320	42	13	445	−143	588
1970	99	100	100	100	100	257	175	68	38	692	−9	701
1971	100	103	100	92	101	−7	−218	52	21	1,061	285	776
1972	102	109	102	83	111	−412	−498	28	22	83	−685	768
1971 1st qtr	98	100	100	96	97	114	10	14	−22	145	−52	197
2nd qtr	100	102	101	94	102	103	−113	26	7	288	105	183
3rd qtr	100	103	101	92	105	−18	67	9	15	380	172	208
4th qtr	101	105	101	88	102	—	−47	3	21	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr	100	106	103	88	105	−136	−156	15	−9	79	−119	198
2nd qtr	102	108	102	84	110	−104	−145	−12	40	131	−50	181
3rd qtr	102	109	101	81	110	−87	−125	4	−8	−110	−284	174
4th qtr	104	111	102	81	118	−85	−72	22	−1	−17	−232	216
1973 1st qtr	108	114	110	87	123	245	168	18	52	−187	−364	177
2nd qtr	107	112	103	84	107	193	87	−14	166	−208	−411	203
3rd qtr	108	113	108	91	115	147	91	19	34	−317 p	−550 p	233 p
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs	+1.9	+0.3	−0.1	+3.6	−8.2							
on a year earlier	+5.9	+4.0	+4.5	+5.9	+0.4							

	Index of Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
			monthly averages		Index‡					thousands		thousands	monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972				Series in £ million	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands										
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	186	658	659
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	733	709
1972	102.2	101.6	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	761	818
1973			110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.1	123.2•	115.5	581	2.6	304	957 p	1,152 p
1971 4th qtr	100.4	99.0	102.1	132	157.3	9.2	104.8	110.8	92.7	832	3.7	118	748	728
1972 1st qtr	98.0	98.4	102.1	124	159.7	8.0	105.6	112.1	95.9	870	3.8	124	728	767
2nd qtr	102.7	101.3	104.6	147	162.7	6.2	106.1	113.5	98.1	835	3.7	135	769	786
3rd qtr	102.4	101.6	107.2	139	165.4	6.5	109.4	115.6	102.2	809	3.6	146	686	781
4th qtr	105.7	105.3	109.5	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	754	3.3	176	862	939
1973 1st qtr	110.4	110.5	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	665	2.9	229	878	1,004
2nd qtr	110.4	110.3	108.0	136	177.9	9.3	133.4	120.1•	112.6	602	2.6	292	937	1,079
3rd qtr	111.4	112.0	110.5	143	180.2	9.2	150.5	124.2	118.4	563	2.5	332	995	1,187
4th qtr			112.3	119	186.8	10.3	166.6	129.1	120.9	494	2.2	361	1,017 p	1,340 p
1973 Feb	110.7	111.2	111.6	155	172.4	7.9	126.0	119.6	108.9	660	2.9	238	899	976
Mar	111.9	112.6	114.0	151	173.4	8.2	129.4	120.0	109.5	630	2.8	254	867	1,074
Apr	110.0	109.9	106.9	138	176.7	9.2	130.5	118.8•	112.3	617	2.8	275	945	1,000
May	109.9	109.0	106.5	134	178.0	9.5	132.4	120.1	113.2	599	2.7	296	900	1,116
June	111.1	112.2	110.1	135	178.9	9.3	137.2	121.3	115.6	590	2.6	307	966	1,109
July	111.5	111.9	110.6	147	179.7	9.4	145.1	122.7	116.0	578	2.6	325	963	1,135
Aug	111.0	111.8	110.8	153	180.2	8.9	152.4	124.1	119.7	565	2.5	327	978	1,196
Sept	111.6	112.3	110.2	129	181.8	9.3	154.1	125.8	120.0	545	2.4	345	1,044	1,230
Oct	111.7	111.9	111.7	127	185.4	9.9	161.4	127.7	120.3	515	2.3	362	989 p	1,353 p
Nov	111.1	112.4	112.3	126	186.8	10.3	165.4 p	129.0 p	120.8	490	2.2	366	1,038 p	1,316 p
Dec			112.9	103	188.2	10.6	172.9 p	130.6 p	121.6	476	2.1	356	1,022 p	1,352 p
1974 Jan										537 p	2.4	301 p		
% change last qtr on prev. qtr	+0.2	+0.2	+1.6	−17.0	+3.5		+10.7	+3.9	+2.0	−7.5		−1.1	+2.1	+12.9
on a year earlier	+6.3	+7.4	+2.6	−17.8	+10.3		+44.0	+10.7	+11.9	−31.2		+81.0	+17.9	+42.7

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. • After April, affected by changes due to VAT

Energy: weekly statistical statement

The Department of Energy announced last week, the following details of energy stocks to 26 January.

	Week ending					
	29/9/73	29/12/73	5/1/74	12/1/74	19/1/74	26/1/74
COAL						
Production (M tons) (b)	2.6	0.4	0.8	1.8	1.8	1.7
Undistributed stocks (M tons) (c)	13.3	10.7	10.7	10.4	10.2	9.8
Stocks at power stations (M tons) (d)	20.3	14.5	13.9	13.7	13.6	13.6
Consumption at power stations (M tons)	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2
Receipts at power stations (M tons)	1.4	0.4	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.2
OIL						
Stocks held by oil companies (M tons) (e)	23.1	18.9	19.0	19.2	18.8	18.8
Days' supply (e)	76	56	56	57	55	56
Stocks at power stations (M tons) (f)	0.67	0.81	0.80	0.78	0.79	0.80
Consumption at power stations (M tons) (f)	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.28	0.31
Receipts at power stations (M tons) (f)	0.19	0.22	0.25	0.26	0.29	0.32
ELECTRICITY						
Estimated savings (%) (g)	—	20	21	19	20	21

NOTES:
(a) M tons = million tons.

COAL
(b) In a normal week, unaffected by holidays or industrial disputes, some 2.7 million tons might be produced.
(c) At the latest date only about 3.5 million tons is suitable for use in power stations, and of this total some 1.8 million tons can be used only in the South Wales area.
(d) Because of physical handling difficulties and some unevenness in the distribution of stocks a progressive disruption of the electricity systems begins to occur when the overall stock level at power stations gets down to about 7 million tons and thereafter unplanned disconnections can be expected within days.

OIL
(e) Total UK oil stocks at 26/1/74 amounted to 18.8 million tons or 56 days' supply at the normal level of consumption at this time of year. These are held as crude and process oil at the refineries and as products at various points in the distribution system. Certain minimum stock levels must be maintained if the refining and distribution system is to operate effectively. At the 45 day level (about 15 million tons) local shortages would begin to appear and below this level would become increasingly severe. The most difficult situation is likely to be in industrial oils, especially fuel oil. Seasonal factors affect the duration of any given level of oil stocks.
(f) Main oil burning stations only. The oil stocks figures now include 0.06 million tons not previously recorded. For the weeks ending 8, 15, and 22 December the corresponding stock figures were 0.84, 0.78 and 0.83 million tons respectively.

ELECTRICITY
(g) Savings are based on a comparison with estimated demand in the absence of restrictions.

Weekly indicators of industrial output

During the present emergency indicators of output in some industrial sectors are being assembled where information is readily available. The following table presents the latest data available at the time of going to press.

Index numbers of output

Average 1973 = 100; not seasonally adjusted

	Week ending			
	5 Jan.	12 Jan.	19 Jan.	26 Jan.
Ethylene	..	106	112	114
Passenger cars	38	84	76	99
Commercial vehicles	32	71	73	80
Television sets:				
Monochrome	51	77	76	81
Colour	64	106	109	109
Cement	43	60	68	75

NOTES:
(i) In most cases, the average weekly production in 1973 is partly estimated. For cars and commercial vehicles, output last year was much reduced by industrial disputes
(ii) Output in week ending 5 January was also effected by holidays.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available
— nil or less than half the final digit shown
p provisional
r revised
* five week period
ø fifty-three week period

Sales by wholesale textile houses

Sales by wholesale textile houses in November showed an increase of 13 per cent on a year earlier, compared with increases of 3 per cent in September and 12 per cent in October.

The value of stocks at the end of November was 21 per cent higher than a year earlier.

TABLE 1 Total sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*−3*	..	..
1967	104	*−5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*−5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	115	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1971 4th quarter	140	*4*	152	*6*
1972 1st quarter	102	*2*	164	*11*
2nd quarter	111	*4*	146	*8*
3rd quarter	123	*7*	154	*4*
4th quarter	149	*6*	169	*12*
1973 1st quarter	120	*18*	184	*12*
2nd quarter	123	*11*	171	*17*
3rd quarter	130	*6*	173	*12*
1972 November	137	*4*	167	*8*
December	145	*8*	169	*12*
1973 January	87	*22*	162	*6*
February	126	*22*	169	*5*
March	146	*13*	184	*12*
April	133	*10*	163	*11*
May	114	*9*	173	*15*
June	121	*14*	171	*17*
July	107	*5*	173	*15*
August	124	*9*	179	*19*
September	159	*3*	173	*12*
October	184	*12*	162	*16*
November	154	*13*	203	*21*

TABLE 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks (‡)
	November 1973	January-November 1973	November 1973
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	40	3	23
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	8	6	29
Women's underwear	17	11	−15
Women's hose and children's socks	4	−10	−7
Women's millinery	8	—	111
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	26	7	54
Children's wear	—	−8	−5
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	39	18	−20
Gloves	7	30	22
Piece-goods and nets	15	2	91
Household textiles	47	38	91
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	9	15	31
Boots and shoes	18	4	−23
Total†	13	11	21

† Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Notes

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, The Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (Tel. 01-580 2902).

Information for management: packaging in the UK

Introduction

In recent years manufacturers have become increasingly interested in obtaining statistical information for management purposes, particularly for an analysis of potential markets. One rapidly growing activity is that of packaging. By 1972 sales of packaging products (including some elements of intermediate packaging products) had risen to over £1,300 million per annum, or about £23 per head of population in the United Kingdom.

Packaging is a diverse activity and users of official packaging statistics have been faced hitherto by the problem of drawing information from a large number of different Government publications. This is because packaging is not recognised as a separate industry in the Standard Industrial Classification and packaging items are classified to a large number of different industries. For example, cork stoppers are regarded as principal products of 'Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures' (Minimum list heading 479 of the Standard Industrial Classification 1968) whilst crown corks are classified to 'Metallic closures' (Minimum list heading 399/10). To obtain the latest sales figures for all types of packaging products the user has been obliged to subscribe to nearly a dozen separate Business Monitors. In order to improve the service to users, the Business Statistics Office is bringing together packaging statistics into a new quarterly Business Monitor entitled Packaging Products (PQ 480). The first issue is now available and may be obtained from the Business Statistics Office Library, Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Mon. NPT 1XG. Subsequent issues will be available on subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH at 37½p per annum.

Recent developments

To provide a background to the short-period statistics in the new Business Monitor the tables below show some of the main changes in the industry during the last 20 years. They are based on data from the Censuses of Production for 1954 to 1968 and data from the new quarterly inquiries into manfacturers' sales.

TABLE 1 Estimated sales of principal packaging products 1954-1972 (a)

	£ million						Percentage					
	1954	1958	1963	1968	1971	1972	1954	1958	1963	1968	1971	1972
Metal Packaging Products	98.4	118.3	150.4	206.6	275.8(c)	304.4(c)	24.7	24.4	22.7	23.0	22.9(c)	22.9(c)
Timber Packaging Products	41.9	41.3	46.8	54.1	66.2	64.2	10.5	8.5	7.1	6.0	5.5	4.8
Canvas Sacks and Bags	28.4	27.5	22.1	14.1	10.7(c)	11.7	7.1	5.7	3.3	1.6	0.9(c)	0.9
Glass Packaging Products	31.5	43.6	55.1	74.9	108.0	118.6	7.9	9.0	8.3	8.4	9.0	8.9
Plastic Packaging Products	2.9(d)	6.7	37.2	89.4	122.3	134.9	0.7(d)	1.4	5.6	10.0	10.2	10.2
Paper and Board Packaging (b)	195.3(e)	247.8(e)	351.2	458.1	621.4(f)	695.3	49.0(e)	51.1(e)	53.0	51.1	51.6(f)	52.3
TOTAL SALES	398.3	485.3	662.8	897.3	1,204.5	1,329.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Notes:
(a) Includes estimates of sales of small establishments and establishments not making satisfactory returns.
(b) Includes a significant degree of double counting of intermediate products.
(c) Estimated.
(d) Excluding transparent regenerated cellulose film.
(e) Includes estimates for paper and board packaging products not shown separately in 1954 and 1958.
(f) Includes estimates for various packaging products of paper and board (accounting for approximately 27 per cent of sales) for first three quarters 1971.

Source: Census of Production 1954-68: Business Monitors 1971-72

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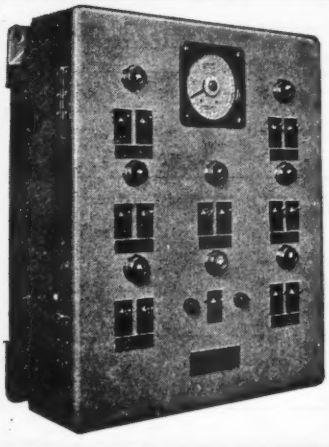

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Table 1 analyses sales of packaging products by materials used. It highlights the continued importance of paper and board products (although the 49 per cent share of all packaging sales in 1954 and 52 per cent share in 1972 includes a substantial element of double counting), the rapid growth of plastics (from 1 per cent of all packaging sales in 1954 to over 10 per cent in 1972), and the relative decline of timber products and canvas sacks and bags (which declined from 18 per cent to 6 per cent between 1954 and 1972).

TABLE 2 Purchases of packaging products by industry groups (all firms estimates) (a)

Standard Industrial Classification Orders	Industry group	£ million			Percentage		
		1954	1963	1968	1954	1963	1968
III (part)	Food	129.8	183.7	257.5	37.4	34.6	35.6
III (part)	Drink and Tobacco	41.8	75.2	107.4	12.0	14.2	14.9
V (part)	Chemical and Allied Industries (other than Pharmaceutical and Toilet Preparations)	37.9	54.9	73.1	10.9	10.3	10.1
V (part)	Pharmaceutical and Toilet Preparations	33.5	57.2	75.5	9.6	10.8	10.4
VI-XII	Metals, Engineering and Vehicles	44.8	69.9	90.0	12.9	13.2	12.4
XIII-XV	Clothing and Textiles	22.4	30.6	39.2	6.5	5.8	5.4
II, IV, XVI-XIX, XXI	Other	37.0	59.3	80.6	10.7	11.2	11.1
TOTAL		347.2	530.8	723.1	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes estimates for establishments with under 25 employees and for establishments not making satisfactory returns.
Source: Census of Production.

Table 2 shows purchases analysed by industry group. Food, drink and tobacco accounted for half the total throughout the period.

Table 3 analyses purchases of packaging products in 1968, by industry and by material used. It also highlights the importance of food, drink, and tobacco manufacturers as purchasers of all types of packaging product. By value these accounted for 76 per cent of glass containers and 65 per cent of metal packaging products bought

TABLE 3 Estimates of purchases of packaging products by manufacturing industry 1968 (a)

Standard Industrial Classification Orders	Industry Group	£ million							
		Metal	Timber	Canvas	Glass	Plastic	Paper and Board	Residual (c)	Total (b)
III (part)	Food	74.4	0.6	2.6	20.4	28.8	118.4	12.3	257.5
III (part)	Drink and Tobacco	26.3	12.1	0.1	20.5	8.5	34.7	5.1	107.4
V (part)	Chemical and Allied Industries (other than Pharmaceutical and Toilet Preparations)	32.8	2.0	1.1	2.0	6.8	17.5	10.7	73.1
V (part)	Pharmaceutical and Toilet Preparations	13.4	0.4	—	10.6	15.5	30.7	5.2	75.5
VI-XII	Metals, Engineering and Vehicles	0.6	24.8	1.3	—	2.0	43.5	17.7	90.0
XIII-XV	Clothing and Textiles	—	0.1	1.0	—	3.5	26.0	8.5	39.2
II, IV, XVI-XIX, XXI	Other	7.7	4.3	0.2	—	3.5	52.2	12.8	80.6
TOTAL (b)		155.2	44.3	6.3	53.5	68.6	323.0	72.3	723.1

(a) Includes estimates for small firms and establishments not making satisfactory returns.
(b) The sums of the constituent items may not agree with the row and column totals because of rounding.
(c) This covers packaging items which cannot be allocated to one of the six specific groups distinquished in this table because of insufficient information in the Census returns.
Source: Census of Production 1968.

by manufacturing industry. More than half of total timber packaging was used by the engineering and vehicle industries.

Note on statistical sources

In compiling the accompanying tables extensive use has been made of Government statistical publications. The reports of the Censuses of Production for 1954, 1963 and 1968 were used to provide information on sales and purchases, whilst sales were also taken from the 1958 Census Report and from the appropriate Business Monitors for 1971 and 1972.

Sales information in *greater product detail* is available from the relevant industry reports of the Censuses of Production which show sales of principal products of the industry by larger establishments including sales by establishments classified to other industries. These figures represent an analysis of returns received and require adjustment to cover small establishments and establishments not making satisfactory returns in order to make an estimate of total sales. This can be most readily done using the employment data which is given in the census reports, although recognising the degree of possible error introduced by assuming a similar sales-employment relationship among small firms as among responding firms.

Information on purchases of packaging products by manufacturing industry, in greater product and market detail, may be obtained from the Industry Reports on the Censuses of Production for 1954, 1963 and 1968. This also is based on an analysis of returns received and adjustment for small establishments and establishments not making satisfactory returns must be made to provide estimates for all firms. A comparable analysis of purchases by the distributive trades is not available. This absence accounts for most of the discrepancy between total sales and total purchases in the tables of this note which cover only purchases by manufacturers. Another type of discrepancy between sales and purchases may be encountered where certain packaging products may be defined differently by the buyer and seller of the product in the census returns, the seller often using a more stringent classification. For example, it seems likely that many purchases of fibreboard packing cases were recorded by buyers as 'Boxes, cartons, drums and canisters (with or without metals ends) of paper and cardboard' in the 1968 Census.

A convenient although less detailed analysis of purchases of packaging products by manufacturing industries may be found in the summary tables to the Censuses of Production 1954, 1963 and 1968. Part 156 of the Report on the 1968 Census gives the most convenient up to date analysis of purchases by type of product and by purchasing industry. In addition to these official sources, PIRA (the research association for the paper and board, printing and packaging industries) has recently published, 'A Statistical Review of the Packaging Industry' which draws upon Government and other sources to review a wide range of packaging products with special reference to end uses. Further details of this publication may be obtained from the Information and Training Division, PIRA, Randalls Road, Leatherhead.

The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Business Monitor

The following titles and issues are now available.

Production series

Monthly at £1 a year post free:

PM 481 Paper and paper making materials for October 1973
PM 440 Made-up clothing (sales volume indices) for September 1973

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PQ 215 Milk and milk products for second quarter 1973
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PQ 239.2 British wines, cider and perry for third quarter 1973
PQ 279.4 Formulated pesticides for third quarter 1973
PQ 279.6 Surgical bandages, etc. for third quarter 1973
PQ 332 Metal-working machine tools for first quarter 1973
PQ 333 Pumps, valves, compressors and fluid power equipment for second quarter 1973
PQ 337 Mechanical handling equipment for second quarter 1973
PQ 339.3 Refrigerating machinery, space-heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment for second quarter 1973
PQ 339.9 Miscellaneous (non-electrical) machinery for second quarter 1973
PQ 366 Electronic computers for second quarter 1973
PQ 395 Cans and metal boxes for third quarter 1973
PQ 396.2 Jewellery for third quarter 1973
PQ 399.10 Metallic closures for third quarter 1973
PQ 418 Lace for third quarter 1973
PQ 419 Carpets for third quarter 1973
PQ 445 Women's and girls' light outerwear, lingerie, infants' wear, etc. for second quarter 1973
PQ 449.1 Corsets and miscellaneous dress industries for second quarter 1973
PQ 464 Cement for third quarter 1973
PQ 472 Wooden furniture and upholstery for third quarter 1973
PQ 473 Bedding and soft furnishings, for third quarter 1973
PQ 484.1 Wallcoverings for third quarter 1973

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Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Trade and Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request.

A complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application to Department of Trade and Industry, Room 306, Gaywood House, Great Peter Street, London SW1P L3W.

New Business Monitor for abrasives

The first two quarters results of a new statistical inquiry into manufacturers' sales of abrasives are now published in the Business Monitor series.

Products covered include bonded abrasives, coated abrasives and abrasive grain.

This inquiry, which is part of a new system of individual statistics being introduced by the Government Statistical Service, has been designed after consultations with the industry both to meet official statistical requirements and to provide industry with information for marketing and management purposes.

The figures in the new Monitor are compiled from returns received from establishments with 25 or more employees classified to Minimum List Heading 469.1 of the Standard Industrial Classification (Abrasives). They also include sales of the principal products of this industry by establishments employing 25 or more persons classified to other industries included in the new system of quarterly inquiries.

Response to the initial quarters of this inquiry has proved to be slow but it is hoped that, as firms organise their records to provide the information sought, publication of future results will be speeded up.

The new Monitor (Reference PQ 469.1) is available on subscription of 37½p (including postage) per year from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1.

Detailed statistics of UK overseas trade

Each month the Overseas Trade Statistics give a considerable amount of detail about United Kingdom imports, exports and commodities and, for many of them the most important countries of consignment. The information in these statistics is a summary of much more detailed information. This is derived from declarations made by traders to HM Customs and Excise under the descriptions in the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification (which has about 9,000 commodity headings); there are 190 specified countries for consignment. The fully detailed information is not published on a monthly basis but, when circumstances allow, HM Customs and Excise can supply detailed information about trade under individual descriptions of the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classsification and with individual countries or through United Kingdom ports, either for particular months or for longer periods. A charge is made which covers the cost of the service. Applications should be made to the Statistical Office, Bill of Entry Section, HM Customs and Excise, 27 Victoria Avenue; Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 6AL (Tel. Southend (0702) 49421, ext. 316 or 323 for Imports, or ext. 314 or 315 for Exports; Telex 99112 CUSEX Southend).

Index of industrial production for Wales

Welsh industrial output rose by 2.4 per cent in the third quarter of 1973, standing 3.8 per cent higher than a year previously, and 17.2 per cent higher than in 1968. The rise over the whole period is greater than for the United Kingdom as a whole, but over the recent past Welsh industrial output has lagged: the rise of 3.8 per cent over the year must be compared with an increase of 8.7 per cent nationally.

Manufacturing output rose by 1.8 per cent in the third quarter – slightly more than in the country as a whole. Over the year ending in the third quarter Welsh manufacturing output increased by 6.7 per cent (compared with an increase of 10.2 per cent in the United Kingdom). The increase since 1968, however, has been 27 per cent in Wales and only 17 per cent nationally.

Outside manufacturing industry, a poor performance was registered by Mining and Quarrying, where the index now stands at 61 per cent of the 1968 level. The Construction industry maintained the level of the previous quarter. The Utilities (Gas, Electricity and Water) index has been substantially revised for 1973 in the light of improved information, and now shows a marked fall-off in the second quarter (largely associated with difficulties in electricity generation) succeeded by a marked recovery.

Among manufacturing industries performance varied considerably over the quarter. Coal and Petroleum products registered a considerable rise (+ 14 per cent), as did Timber and Paper (+ 9.6 per cent), Other Manufacturing Industries (+ 6.1 per cent), and Bricks, Pottery, Glass, Cement, etc. (+ 5.4 per cent). The Engineering sector as a whole, however, remained at approximately the level established during the second quarter. Within this group an appreciable rise was recorded by Mechanical and Instrument Engineering (+ 6.2 per cent). Vehicles remained at the level of the previous quarter, and falls were registered in Electrical Engineering (— 3.8 per cent) and Metal Goods (— 3.5 per cent).

Most other industries within the manufacturing sector registered small gains: the important Ferrous Metals industry rose by 1.9 per cent, Food, Drink and Tobacco by 1.8 per cent and Textiles and Clothing by 1.5 per cent. Falls were recorded by Chemicals (— 2.9 per cent) and Non-ferrous Metals (— 2.4 per cent).

All industries

Seasonally adjusted — 1968 = 100

1968 SIC	1968 weights per thousand	Annual indices				Quarterly indices				
						1972		1973		
		1969	1970	1971	1972	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.
Total: All industries	1,000	100.4	104.2	103.8	110.4	112.9	117.9	118.1	114.5	117.2
Mining and quarrying	91	87	74	72	64	70	84	76	68	61
Total: All manufacturing industries	695	103.4	110.2	109.4	116.3	118.8	123.6	124.2	124.5	126.8
Food, drink and tobacco	35	99	104	108	113	111	116	111	110	112
Coal and petroleum products	45	122	123	125	118	123	123	118	114	130
Chemicals and allied industries	76	103	106	97	118	117	119	129	137	133
Metal Manufacture: Total	202	95	101	98	105	110	114	109	106	107
Ferrous	167	94	191	95	104	108	111	104	102	104
Non-ferrous	35	101	94	114	111	114	126	136	126	123
Engineering and allied industries	188	106	118	116	122	121	132	135	137	136
Mechanical and instrument engineering	46	106	117	112	107	109	114	116	128	136
Electrical engineering	56	103	128	127	139	143	154	156	157	151
Vehicles (including aircraft)	44	108	116	123	134	126	140	149	142	142
Metal goods nes	42	105	110	97	102	103	112	117	113	109
Textiles, and leather and fur, and clothing and footwear	58	104	108	112	118	125	126	123	126	128
Timber, furniture etc, and paper, printing and publishing	33	113	116	117	127	133	131	136	135	148
Bricks, pottery, glass and cement etc.	20	102	105	119	122	122	127	132	129	136
Other manufacturing industries	39	109	125	129	133	132	137	143	147	156
Construction	132	97	100	101	98	97	97	102	101	101
Gas, electricity and water	83	95	95	95	131	134	139	138	102	123

For a complete series from the first quarter of 1968 to the third quarter of 1973 contact Economic Services Division, Welsh Office, Cathays Park, Cardiff (tel: Cardiff 28066, ext. 332)

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended October 1973 net new orders (pairage seasonally adjusted) received by the footwear industry were estimated to be 8 per cent less than in the three months ended July 1973. Deliveries were 6 per cent lower than in the previous three months and the growth in order books continued: orders on hand at the end of October were 14 per cent above the July level. The index of production in the three months ended October was 6 per cent higher than in the three months ended July.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumer expenditure, prices and employment are published in the Business Monitor Production Series under the reference PQ 450.

The table below is compiled from the results of the monthly and quarterly inquiries which started at the beginning of 1971 and the KS inquiry which they superseded. Linkage factors spanning the fourth quarter 1970 and the first quarter 1971 have been calculated from matching samples of firms contributing to both the old and new inquiries and the KS results adjusted to provide a single, broadly comparable series. Since the linking factors cover only two quarters however, the amended back data for 1966–70 should be interpreted with caution.

The index of production is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). The movements shown by the index numbers will frequently differ from those shown by the absolute figures of pairage and value which relate to complete footwear only, sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC.

Stock figures represent manufacturers' stocks of complete footwear at the end of each quarter, including footwear awaiting delivery but not invoiced.

A selection from nearly 100 styles of shoes for men which Eaton Footwear of Rushden, Northamptonshire will be promoting at home and overseas in the spring. Eaton, one of the UK's largest manufacturers of men's footwear in the medium-price range, is steadily building exports to 50 per cent of production and is finding new markets in Scandinavia, the African countries and North America. The model is holding a copper and black glow-leather casual with platform and high heel.

Index of production: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of production 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.8			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1972 1st quarter	105	37.7	36.4	53.4	18.0	16.8	24.7	16.3	16.0	25.5	20.0
2nd quarter	98	35.7	28.8	65.1	13.7	12.8	25.8	14.4	15.3	21.9	24.1
3rd quarter	112	26.4	32.3	49.7	13.1	17.2	20.9	16.2	16.0	26.0	18.2
4th quarter	98	29.5	31.8	59.6	15.8	14.0	27.7	14.8	14.2	24.4	18.5
1973 1st quarter	104	36.2	36.0	62.4	18.1	17.2	29.6	15.9	15.8	28.7	18.7
2nd quarter	104	44.5	41.3	84.6	17.2	17.3	32.8	14.4	15.5	25.4	20.6
3rd quarter p	116	39.0	48.7	73.1	13.0	17.3	25.0	14.9	14.9	29.9	16.3
1972 July	115	30.1	28.3	57.0	9.3	15.9	16.0	14.9	16.4	24.0	
August	114	31.9	35.1	55.5	17.7	23.4	23.3	16.0	16.5	24.8	
September	108	26.4	32.3	49.7	12.2	12.4	23.4	17.6	15.2	29.2	
October	99	25.4	31.2	49.9	16.5	13.2	28.6	17.5	14.3	28.5	
November	99	29.0	31.4	58.7	19.4	14.6	34.9	15.9	14.4	26.1	
December	97	29.5	31.8	59.6	11.4	14.1	19.7	10.9	13.8	18.8	
1973 January	98	33.1	38.5	61.7	18.1	21.9	27.9	14.5	15.2	25.8	
February	109	34.5	37.6	61.4	16.8	14.8	27.8	15.4	15.7	28.1	
March	105	36.2	36.0	62.4	19.5	14.7	32.1	17.8	16.4	32.2	
April	107	39.9	36.3	73.5	18.0	16.1	36.6	14.4	15.7	25.4	
May	103	44.2	38.2	84.9	19.5	17.3	37.8	15.2	15.4	26.4	
June	101	44.5	41.3	84.6	14.1	18.5	24.1	13.8	15.3	24.3	
July p	115	41.0	44.2	75.7	10.9	18.1	18.1	14.4	15.2	27.0	
August p	122	39.7	46.9	74.4	13.4	18.0	27.6	14.8	15.3	29.0	
September p	110	39.0	48.7	73.1	14.8	16.0	29.4	15.5	14.1	30.6	
October p	105	41.4	50.4	79.5	20.1	15.6	41.1	17.6	13.9	34.6	

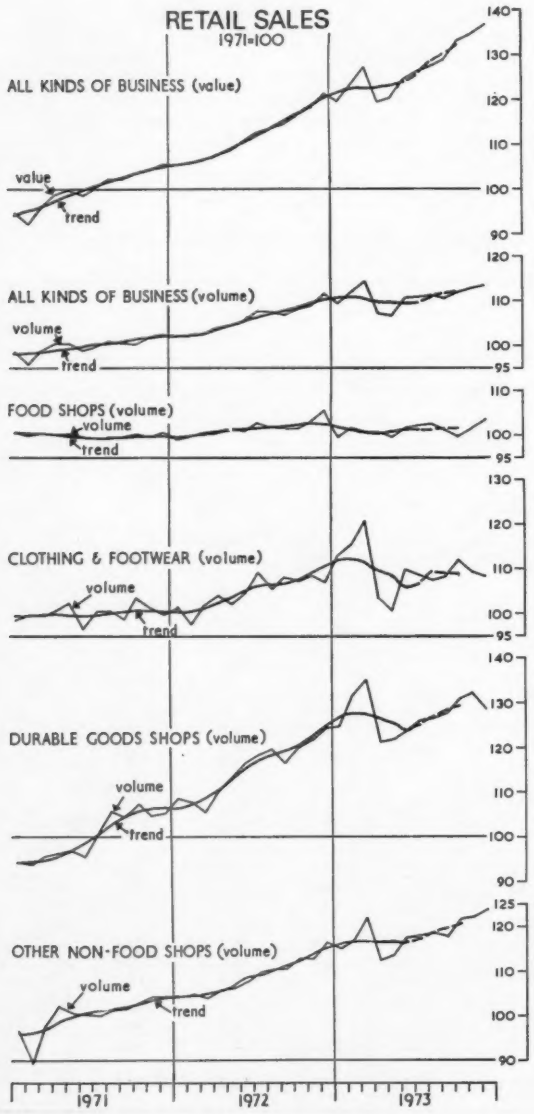
Retail sales in December 1973

The seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in December is 112.9 (1971 = 100), showing a further small increase over the November level. While sales by food shops rose, sales by durable goods shops fell back. Compared with a year earlier, total sales in December were only 1¼ per cent higher, following year-on-year increases of over 3 per cent for recent months.

There were a number of factors affecting the level of trade in December. Whereas the special £10 payment to pensioners would probably have tended to increase sales – particularly by food shops – the full effect of power restrictions on shop opening hours, the introduction of restrictions on credit, and possibly also the rail dispute, may have had an adverse effect on trade.

In the fourth quarter of 1973, the volume of total sales was some 1½ per cent more than in the third quarter – a rise which may have been, in part, once and for all, reflecting the increase, from October, in retirement pensions and certain benefits, as well as the Christmas bonus to pensioners. Between these periods the volume of sales by durable goods shops and by 'other non-food' shops (which include department stores and mail-order businesses) both rose by 3 per cent; and sales by clothing and footwear shops by 1 per cent. However, in spite of the recent monthly increases, sales by food shops in the fourth quarter were little changed from the third quarter level.

Total retail sales in the fourth quarter were 2½ per cent more than a year earlier, in volume terms.



Between 1972 and 1973, the volume of total sales rose by 4½ per cent, a slightly smaller increase than the 5¾ per cent between 1971 and 1972. These increases followed a period during which growth in retail sales had been relatively small.

Notes

Minor end-year revisions have been made to the seasonally adjusted figures for 1973 to bring the totals for the year into line with the totals of the unadjusted figures. Some revision, either upward or downward, usually has to be made at the end of the year because the seasonally adjusted figures do not as a rule add up precisely to the recorded totals.

It is proposed to issue each month a Press Notice giving provisional estimates of the seasonally adjusted value and volume indices of retail sales. The first figures, which will relate to January, will appear in a Press Notice to be issued on Monday 11 February, and will subsequently appear in *Trade and Industry*.

TABLE 1 Volume of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of sales per week (average 1971 prices) 1971 = 100

		All kinds of business	Food shops	Non-food shops Total	Clothing and footwear shops	Durable goods shops	Other non-food shops (†)
(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional estimates)		(15,895)	(6,693)	(9,202)	(2,314)	(1,801)	(5,087)
1966		92.8	98.3	89.0	93	84	89
1967		94.6	99.5	91.1	93	87	92
1968		97.2	100.5	94.8	96	92	96
1969		97.3	101.6	94.2	96	89	96
1970		99.0	101.7	97.1	98	92	99
1971		100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972		105.8	101.5	109.0	105	115	109
1973		110.7	101.0	117.7	109	127	118
1971	1st quarter	97.8	100.5	95.8	99	95	95
	2nd quarter	99.7	99.8	99.6	100	96	101
	3rd quarter	100.5	99.6	101.1	100	104	101
	4th quarter	102.1	100.2	103.5	101	106	104
1972	1st quarter	102.1	99.7	103.9	100	107	104
	2nd quarter	104.6	101.0	107.1	104	114	107
	3rd quarter	107.2	101.9	111.1	108	118	110
	4th quarter	109.5	103.3	114.0	107	122	114
1973	1st quarter	111.8 r	100.5 r	120.0 r	116	131	118
	2nd quarter	108.0 r	100.5 r	113.4 r	104 r	122	115
	3rd quarter	110.5 r	101.6 r	117.0 r	108	127	118
	4th quarter	112.3	101.4	120.4	109	130	122
1972	October	108.0	101.4	112.8	107	120	113
	November	108.9	102.9	113.3	108	122	113
	December*	111.2	105.2	115.5	107	124	116
	. . .						
1973	January	109.2 r	99.5 r	116.2 r	113	125	115
	February	111.6 r	101.3 r	119.1 r	115	132	117
	March*	114.0 r	100.6 r	123.8 r	120	135	122
	April	106.9 r	100.4 r	111.6 r	103	121	112 r
	May	106.5 r	99.4 r	111.6 r	100	122	113 r
	June*	110.1 r	101.4 r	116.4 r	109 r	123 r	117
	July	110.6 r	101.9 r	116.8 r	108	126	118
	August	110.8 r	102.2 r	117.0 r	107	126	118 r
	September*	110.2 r	100.8 r	117.0 r	108	128	118
	October	111.7 r	99.3 r	120.7 r	111 r	131	121 r
	November	112.3 r	101.1 r	120.5 r	109	132	122
	December*	112.9	103.2	120.0	108	129	123
1973	July-Sept.	110.5 r	101.6 r	117.0 r	108	127	118
	Oct.-Dec.	112.3	101.4	120.4	109	130	122
Percentage increase		1.6	−0.2	2.9	1	3	3

The indices for all shops, food shops and total non-food shops are shown to the first decimal place to help interpretation, but should not be regarded as necessarily accurate to the final digit. The best indication of the recent trend is normally obtained by comparing the average index for the latest three months with the average for the immediately preceding three months but month to month fluctuations may sometimes make it preferable to average two or four months.

The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked* which are of five weeks. The December 1973 sales period was the five weeks from November 25, 1973 to December 29, 1973. The corresponding period in 1972 was from November 26, 1972 to December 30, 1972.

(†) Including department stores and mail order businesses.

r = Revised figures.

TABLE 2 Value of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 £ million Provisional Estimates)	All kinds of business (15,895)	Food shops (6,693)	Non-food shops Total (9,202)	Clothing and footwear shops (2,314)	Durable goods shops (1,801)	Other non-food shops (†) (5,087)
1966	72.7	75.0	71.0	77	68	69
1967	75.3	77.2	73.8	78	72	73
1968	80.4	81.2	79.9	82	79	80
1969	84.9	87.0	83.3	85	79	84
1970	91.4	92.1	90.9	92	87	92
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	112.0	108.9	114.2	112	118	114
1973	126.9	122.8	129.9	128	136	128
1971 1st quarter	94.5	95.8	93.5	97	93	92
2nd quarter	99.2	99.2	99.3	99	96	101
3rd quarter	101.7	101.2	102.0	100	104	102
4th quarter	104.6	103.9	105.1	103	106	106
1972 1st quarter	106.0	104.7	106.9	105	109	107
2nd quarter	109.1	106.3	111.2	110	115	110
3rd quarter	113.9	110.1	116.6	116	121	115
4th quarter	118.9	114.6	122.1	119	128	122
1973 1st quarter	123.6 r	115.4	129.6 r	131	138	126
2nd quarter	121.7 r	119.6	123.2 r	121	128	123
3rd quarter	127.6 r	124.4	129.8 r	128 r	135 r	129
4th quarter	134.7	131.6	136.9	134	142	137
1972 October	116.8	111.9	120.3	117	125	120
November	118.2	113.7	121.5	120	127	120
December*	121.3	117.5	124.0	119	130	124
. . .						
1973 January	119.8 r	112.6	125.0 r	126	131	123
February	123.1 r	115.8	128.3 r	129 r	138	125
March*	127.2 r	117.3	134.3 r	136	143	131
April	119.5 r	118.0	120.6 r	118	126	120
May	120.4 r	119.3	121.2 r	116	127	122
June*	124.5 r	121.1	127.0 r	128	130	126
July	126.1 r	122.3	128.8 r	127	134	128
August	127.4 r	124.3	129.7 r	127 r	135	129
September*	128.9 r	126.3	130.7 r	130	137	129
October	133.0 r	128.5	136.3 r	135 r	140	135
November	134.5 r	131.3	136.9 r	134	143	136
December*	136.2	134.4	137.5	134	142	138
1973 July-Sept.	127.6 r	124.4	129.8 r	128 r	135 r	129
Oct.-Dec.	134.7	131.6	136.9	134	142	137
Percentage increase	5.6	5.8	5.5	5	5	6

Hire purchase and other instalment credit business in December 1973

New instalment credit advanced by finance houses and retailers in December amounted to £220 million in seasonally adjusted terms. This is the lowest monthly rate this year and probably reflects the first impact of the measures of 18 December, including the re-introduction of terms control. Total lending for the fourth quarter was £715 million, 1 per cent less than in the third quarter. Between the third and fourth quarters credit extended by finance houses decreased by 4 per cent while advances by retailers increased by 3 per cent.

During 1973 as a whole £2,873 million was advanced on instalment credit terms, 15 per cent more than in 1972. This business was shared almost equally between finance houses and retailers.

Retailers' sales on instalment credit (at current prices) were less in December than in October or November, but in the fourth quarter as a whole these sales were 3 per cent more than in the third quarter. Credit sales by durable goods shops and department stores showed little change while those of other instalment credit retailers (mainly mail-order houses) were up by 5 per cent. In 1973 as a whole retailers' total sales on instalment credit were 12 per cent more by value than in 1972.

The total of instalments outstanding to finance houses and retailers increased by £12 million in December. This brought the increase for the fourth quarter to £75 million, following £109 million in the third quarter. At the end of 1973 the total debt outstanding to finance houses and retailers was £2,487 million (not seasonally adjusted), 22 per cent more than at the end of the previous year. £1,638 million was owed to finance houses and £849 million to retailers.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1973 have been revised to bring the totals for the year into line with the totals of the unadjusted figures. Some revision, either upward or downward, usually has to be made at the end of the year, because the seasonally adjusted figures do not as a rule add up precisely to the recorded totals.

TABLE 1 Hire-Purchase and other instalment credit business seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total		Finance Houses†		Retailers‡	
	New credit extended	Increase in debt	New credit extended	Increase in debt	New credit extended	Increase in debt
1969	1,587	−20	701	−21	886	1
1970	1,735	84	822	58	913	26
1971	2,053	240	990	165	1,063	75
1972	2,497	424	1,222	296	1,275	128
1973	2,873	440	1,455	332	1,418	108
1972 1st quarter	575	87	273	57	302	30
2nd quarter	612	108	304	75	308	33
3rd quarter	640	123	309	75	331	48
4th quarter	670	106	336	89	334	17
1973 1st quarter	769 r	176 r	402	136	367 r	40 r
2nd quarter	668 r	80 r	330 r	54 r	338 r	26 r
3rd quarter	721 r	109 r	369 r	85 r	352	24
4th quarter	715	75	354	57	361	18
1973 April	222 r	37 r	110 r	23 r	112 r	14 r
May	221	11	109	8	112	3
June	225	32	111	23	114	9
July	235	34	117	25	118	9
August	253 r	41 r	134 r	33 r	119	8
September	233	34	118	27	115	7
October	249	34 r	123	22	126	12 r
November	246	29	126	25	120	4
December	220	12	105	10	115	2
1973 July-Sept.	721	109	369	85	352	24
Oct.-Dec.	715	75	354	57	361	18
Percentage increase	−1		−4		3	
Debt outstanding at 31 December 1973 (unadjusted)	—	2,487	—	1,638	—	849

† Direct business only: ie excluding agreements block discounted with finance houses by retailers.

‡ Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'. For further definitions see footnote to Table 2.

TABLE 2 Retailers' instalment credit sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1966 = 100

	Total†	Durable goods shops	Department stores	Other instalment credit retailers‡
H.P. and other instalment credit sales in 1966 § £ million	(862)	(327)	(46)	(489)
1969	111	100	113	117
1970	121	112	119	128
1971	134	138	138	131
1972	158	162	157	155
1973	176	166	182	183
1972 1st quarter	149	151	152	148
2nd quarter	153	163	157	146
3rd quarter	164	167	164	162
4th quarter	165	166	155	166
1973 1st quarter	183	177	187 r	186
2nd quarter	168	159	175 r	174 r
3rd quarter	174	163	183 r	182 r
4th quarter	180	163	180	191
1973 April	166	158 r	171 r	171 r
May	168	158	177 r	174 r
June*	170	160	176 r	176
July	176	167	184 r	182 r
August	177	161	181	188 r
September*	171	161	184	177 r
October	188	168	196	201 r
November	181	168	188 r	189
December*	174	156	162	185
1973 July-Sept. av.	174	163	183	182
Oct.-Dec. av.	180	163	180	191
Percentage increase	3	—	−1	5

† Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'.

‡ General stores (other than department stores), general mail order houses and co-operative societies' non-durable goods departments.

§ Excluding sales against checks issued by other organisations.

The monthly periods for retailers consists of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The period covered by December 1973 sales was the five weeks from November 25, 1973 to December 29, 1973. The corresponding period in 1972 was from November 26, 1972 to December 30, 1972.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade and Industry under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 1 February 1974.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered No.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Sex Farm	BR/E 37285/3/2/79	84	30 January	Monarch Film Corporation Ltd.	Global Films Ltd. and Queensway Promotions Ltd.
The Cherry Picker	BR/E 37286/3/2/79	91	30 January	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Elsinore Productions Ltd.
Movietone News 2330	BR/E 37215/3/2/79	7	1 February	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2330A	BR/E 37216/3/2/79	8	1 February	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
Vendetta	F 37282	7	30 January	Pan European Films Ltd.	Film Polski, Warsaw
Podgryzacre	F 37283	5	30 January	Pan European Films Ltd.	Film Polski, Warsaw
Electra Glide In Blue	F 37284	113	30 January	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Theseus Productions Inc.
Peter And The Dog Show	F 37287	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And Invisibility	F 37288	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Service Shop	F 37289	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Flim, Budapest
Peter In The Zoo	F 37290	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Barometer	F 37291	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Birds	F 37292	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Infant Prodigy	F 37293	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Magic Liquid	F 37294	5	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Robot	F 37295	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter's Ball	F 37296	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And His Dog	F 37297	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Magic Car	F 37298	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Magic Ball	F 37299	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter On The North Pole	F 37300	5	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Cowboy	F 37301	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest
Peter And The Camp	F 37302	6	30 January	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Hungaro Film, Budapest

Cinema admissions and takings in November 1973

During November, counted as a four week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 2.42 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings was £1.07 million. The comparable figures for November 1972 were 2.58 million and £1.06 million respectively.

'Economic Progress Report' for February

The main articles in the February issue of *Economic Progress Report* are on Economic measures (a short note setting out the measures announced by the Chancellor on 17 December to reduce demand in the economy by £1,200 million in the coming year); cuts in public expenditure; electricity supplies; and North Sea oil and gas.

Economic Progress Report, prepared by the Treasury Information Division is published every month. It contains articles on economic subjects, analysing or giving background to Government economic policy, together with the Treasury's assessment of the economic situation and a table and charts of economic indicators. Copies are available free from Circulation Section (H), Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU.

Domestic furniture deliveries in November 1973

Monthly figures of domestic furniture deliveries and orders in hand for the period October 1972 to November 1973 are as follows:

		Manufacturers deliveries domestic furniture £ million	Value of orders in hand at end of month £ million	Seasonally adjusted volume indices (1963 = 100)	
				Deliveries	Orders-in-hand
1972	October	34.3	90.4	180	351
	November	32.0	98.8	166	385
	December	27.2	100.6	177	442
1973	January	32.7	119.3	202	561
	February	31.8	129.0	205	564
	March	36.0	132.9	219	618
	April	29.7 r	139.8 r	198 r	623 r
	May	35.3 r	141.8 r	209 r	608 r
	June	34.8 r	142.5 r	211 r	627 r
	July	29.5 r	140.1 r	215 r	588 r
	August	31.0 r	142.7 r	200 r	527 r
	September	38.3 r	135.1 r	213 r	499 r
	October	41.9 p	132.5 p	191 p	469 p
	November	41.3 p	127.5 p	192 p	446 p

p = provisional. r = revised.

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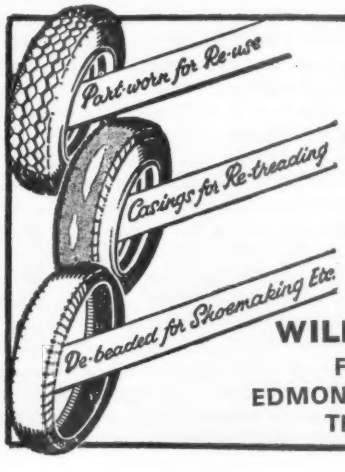

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A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

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Air transport: trade by air (6M)	18 Oct. 1973
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	31 Jan. 1974
quarterly figures (Q)	6 Dec. 1973
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	11 Oct. 1973
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	29 Nov. 1973
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	1 Mar. 1973
Capital expenditure:	
distributive and service trades (A)	28 Apr. 1971
manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	10 Jan. 1974
Catering trades turnover (M)	17 Jan. 1974
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Aug. 1973
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	22 Nov. 1973
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	31 Jan. 1974
N. Ireland (M)	31 Jan. 1974
Computers: UK market (Q)	24 May 1973
Construction work overseas (A)	11 Oct. 1973
Electronic capital equipment (Q)	21 June 1973
Energy trends (M)	24 Jan. 1974
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	17 Jan. 1974
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British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	10 Jan. 1974
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registration of films (A)	31 Jan. 1974
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stocks (M)	17 Jan. 1974
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Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	9 Aug. 1973
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orders and deliveries (M)	24 Jan. 1974
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overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Dec. 1972
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index numbers (M)	17 Jan. 1974

Department of Trade and Industry organisation etc.

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British commercial representation overseas	3 Jan. 1974
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	13 Dec. 1973
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Ministry of Defence

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Location: The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds LS8 4A2

Auctioneers: Bartle & Son (Dept. L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (Tel: 0532-20898)

A large quantity of miscellaneous stores which include – presses; lathes; drilling, planing, bending, shearing, milling, etc. machines; saws; compressors; generating sets; charging sets; tractors; fork lift trucks; pallet transporters; cable; tyres; electrical, signal and wireless equipment; MT spares; tools; lifting and towing equipment; batteries; household and kitchen equipment; tents; carpets; rope; camp equipment; greatcoats; battledress; raincoats; pullovers; shirts; overcoats; boots; shoes; chairs; tables; wardrobes; chests of drawers and beds. 70 BSA motor cycles and Ford vans.

21 February 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Ordnance Storage & Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts.

Auctioneers: Arnold & Son (Dept. L), Modwena House, 13 Market Place, Burton-on-Trent DE14 1HD (Tel: 0283-64657)

THIS SALE REPLACES THE ONE PREVIOUSLY HELD AT BRANSTON

Approximately 700 lots which include a Sagar woodworking dovetailer; Churchill-Faye automatic lathe; capstan and other lathes; pillar drills; milling, grinding and engraving machines; tractors; plant spares including Michigan, Jones and Blaw Knox. Electrical and electronic equipment; aircraft and MT spares; workshop equipment; batteries; tyres; tables; chairs; carpets; bookcases; sideboards, etc. Various items of clothing and textiles which include a large quantity of blankets.

27 February 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison & Hetherington (Dept. L), Botchergate, Carlisle (Tel: 0228-26292)

Surplus plant, stores and 64 motor vehicles. Machine and hand tools including sanding, valve grinding, angle and tube bending, folding and flexible drive machines. Guillotines; drills; spanners; screwdrivers; axes; saws; power units; rectifiers; amplifiers; transformers; servo motors; test sets; receivers; tape recorders; modulators; valves; junction boxes; relays; capacitors; resistors and control units. Pocket and stop watches; binoculars; micrometers; cameras; oscilloscopes; gyro units; wooden boxes and pallets; aluminium rods and sheets; rack assemblies and various paints Several lots of service clothing and boots and shoes; various textiles and a considerable number of blankets.

WARNING
Watch these advertisements for dates of sales. Dates may be altered at short notice because of the special economy measures to conserve fuel.

Catalogues of the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc. are available from the relevant auctioneers from two weeks prior to and up to the date of the sale, price 10p (postal order only).

Department of Trade and Industry

Ship for Sale

Offers are invited for the purchase of the undermentioned trawler 'as lying' at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

'MULL' Steel, built 1941. G.T. 461. N.T. 176.22. Length (b.p.) 150 ft. Breadth (mld) 27 ft. 6 in. Depth (mld) 15 ft. 0 in. Light Displacement 640 tons. Engine: Single screw, steam, oil-fired, triple expansion by C. D. Holmes, Hull, Yorks. IHP 500.

Included in the sale are two surf boats 'PUFFIN 1' and 'PUFFIN 11'. A description of these is included in the further particulars.

Copies of form of purchase agreement, further particulars, plans and authority to inspect can be obtained from the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 42, Parliament Square House, 34/36 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2ND. Tel: 01-222 7060, ext. 26.

Offers should be addressed to the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 43 at the above address in envelopes clearly marked 'Offer to Purchase "MULL"' and must be received not later than *noon* on 7 March 1974.

The above information is given for guidance only and any prospective purchaser must satisfy himself regarding actual details of the vessel and her present condition.

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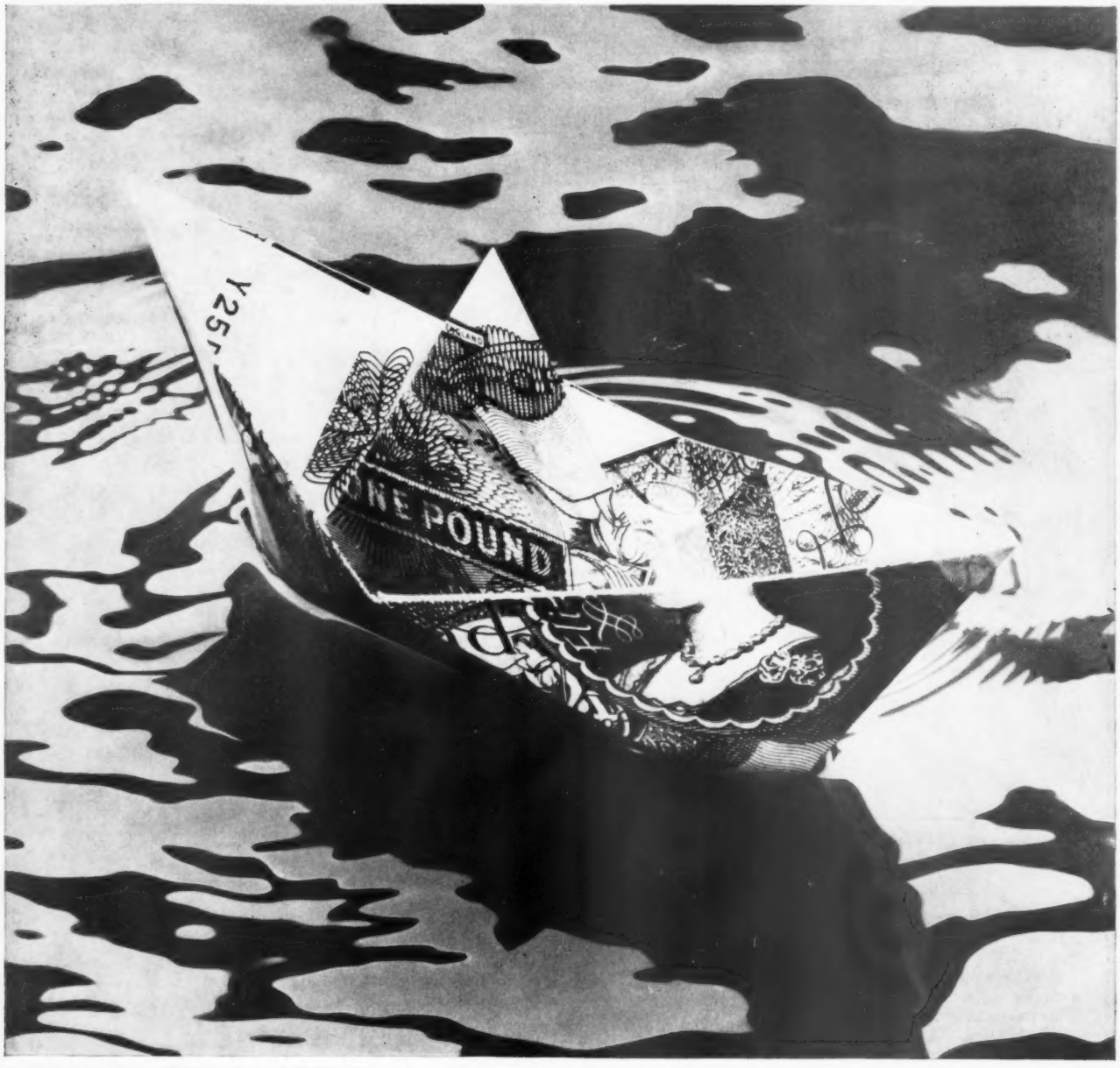

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